

Leader poised to take historic step for Muslim women

Bhutto claims triumph in Pakistan poll

● Miss Benazir Bhutto has claimed the right to form the next Pakistan Government after her party's election success

● Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party won the most seats, but failed to win an absolute assembly majority

● A counter-claim was made almost simultaneously by her main rival, Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif of Punjab

● If confirmed as Prime Minister of a coalition government, she will be the first woman to lead a Muslim country

From Anatol Lieven, Lahore

Miss Benazir Bhutto and her Pakistan People's Party yesterday claimed victory in the country's general election on Wednesday and the right to form the next government.

The PPP took 92 constituencies, compared with 54 won by its main rival, the right-wing Islamic Democratic Alliance. However, Miss Bhutto's party failed to win an absolute majority in the National Assembly of 207 general and 30 reserved seats.

Her main rival for the post of Prime Minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif, the Chief Minister of Punjab, declared that he would be asking President

Ghulam Ishaq Khan to agree to the formation of an Alliance government, on the ground of a claim that the Islamic group held a majority in three of Pakistan's four provinces.

If Miss Bhutto becomes Prime Minister she will achieve a remarkable historic double in the modern Muslim world: the first woman leader of Pakistan and the first female leader of a Muslim country.

Mr Sharif was reported yesterday to have left Lahore for Islamabad to put his case to the President.

The election brought some notable upsets, with a number of senior figures in Pakistani politics losing their seats. Among the Alliance leadership, the former Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junjo, and the group's secretary, General Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, were defeated in Sind.

These setbacks leave Mr Sharif as the only Alliance leader left in the Assembly to head the opposition against the PPP.

And in a minor political incident, but important sociological landmark, the Pir Pagaro, an hereditary religious leader, feudal prince, and political kingmaker, who used to have the unquestioned devotion of tens of thousands of members of the Hur tribe, lost in the first election he has contested.

Independent observers are rejecting Mr Sharif's claim to establish an administration. In Baluchistan, the least-populated province, the Alliance has only two seats. The biggest local party is the Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Islam, a traditionally liberal Muslim element which has often lined up with the PPP.

In North West Frontier Province, the Alliance is the largest party, with eight seats, but the People's Party holds seven, while the Jamiat and Awami National Party (representing Pathan nationalism) have three apiece.

In Sind province, the Alliance failed to win a seat. The PPP took 31, sweeping the Sindhi-speaking areas (the Bhutto family are Sindhi aristocrats). Thirteen seats in Karachi and Hyderabad were taken by the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), a lower middle-class party, only three years old, which represents Urdu-speaking former immigrants from India. Two

seats in Sind went to independents.

Observers consider that the only way of maintaining peace between these the communities in Sind will be some sort of arrangement between the PPP and the MQM.

Should the Mohajirs join the Alliance in a national government from which Sindhis are excluded, the resulting Sindhi alienation could pose a threat to national unity.

But in the short term, the key to the shape of a government probably lies in Punjab, which has more than 60 per cent of Pakistan's population and 115 out of 207 Assembly seats. Here, the PPP won 52 seats and the Alliance 44.

However, the Alliance is also claiming the support of 12 independent MPs, a majority of whom are former Muslim League members disgruntled at not being given Alliance tickets. Five Punjab seats went to smaller parties.

The People's Party is alleging rigging in several Punjab constituencies, pointing to unexplained delays in announcing the results from relatively accessible areas.

In Miss Bhutto's constituency in Lahore, where her party won six out of nine seats, PPP officials claimed that 70 of their polling agents had been detained by police so that the return from their stations could be falsified.

PPP sources claimed that the intention was to diminish the Bhuttos prestige as leaders who can appeal to Punjabis as well as Sindhis — a theme during the elections and a vital point in the days to come.

Miss Bhutto and Begum Nasrat Bhutto, her mother, are the only politicians to win outside their home provinces.

As well as taking seats in Lahore, their ancestral family area, by huge margins, Miss Bhutto also won in Lahore, while her mother won a seat in the mountainous northern region of Chitral. Mr Sharif also contested five constituencies, and won three, but these were all in his native Punjab.

All eyes are now on the provincial assembly elections tomorrow, and especially those in Punjab. If the Alliance can win these and retain its control of the Punjab government, it may be able to prevent a PPP national administration coming to power in Islamabad, or could certainly make its life impossible thereafter.

PPP sympathizers say that they do not expect overt rigging, as this would lead to violence, which they do not consider would be in the Alliance's interest.



Miss Benazir Bhutto, at her home in Larkana, listening patiently yesterday to returns in the Pakistan election.

Jobless figures fall again

Unemployment figures fell heavily last month — to the lowest level since 1980 — but the row over how the figures are compiled was stepped up.

With 18-year-olds excluded for the first time, the fall in unemployment was 192,111, but seasonally adjusted the drop was only 32,000, to 2.16 million.

Earnings stabilized in September with an underlying rise of 94 per cent. Productivity growth in manufacturing rose from 6.8 per cent to 7.7 per cent.

Unit labour costs showed a smaller increase than in recent months, 0.5 per cent above the level of a year earlier.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Employment Secretary, said that job vacancies remained at very high levels, giving every reason for unemployment to continue to fall.

But Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's employment spokesman, said the figures marked "the most deceptive break with reality we have yet seen by a Government which has made wishful thinking on unemployment a statistical art."

He said that vacancies were in fact dropping across the country. "This month's cut in available jobs is more than twice as high as it was a month ago."

"More worrying, though is the fact that manufacturing jobs have fallen by 19,000, the biggest fall in employment for 18 months."

700,000 vacancies, page 25

INSIDE Telecom joy

British Telecom shares rose 7p after interim pre-tax profits rose 9.2 per cent to £1.24 billion and the dividend was increased to 4.25p. Page 25

Robson's call

Bobby Robson, the beleaguered England football manager, has asked the Football Association to re-establish the nation's B team. Page 44

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Plessey opens defence against takeover bid

Plessey, the electronics group, yesterday fired the first salvo in its defence against the £1.7 billion bid by GEC and Siemens, despite announcing interim profits at the lower end of market expectations.

Six-month pre-tax profits were up 10 per cent, at £75 million. The interim dividend was raised 10 per cent, to

2.621p. Sir John Clark, the chairman, said Plessey had strengthened its growth prospects and exceeded its internal profit plans for the first half.

"The acquisition programme has yet to impact fully on operating performance," he said.

Leading article, page 17

Defence talks, page 25

Surgeons hold out hope of transplanting limbs

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The possibility of transplanting limbs from donors to replace irreversibly damaged or severed hands was raised yesterday by Britain's leading plastic surgeons.

The idea is among the research to be undertaken by a new £6 million centre intended to give Britain's burns and accident victims the hope of leading normal lives again.

Unlike organ transplants, such operations involving skin, bone and muscle transplants have proved impossible because of the body's greater tendency to reject this form of donated foreign tissue.

The reason for fresh optimism over the development of limb transplants was described at the launch of an

Defence costs battle reopened

By Martin Fletcher and Michael Evans

The long-running battle between the Ministry of Defence and the Commons Public Accounts Committee over management of the £8 billion Services equipment budget erupted again yesterday with the publication of another critical report.

The all-party committee of MPs demanded a sharp improvement in the ministry's control of important defence projects. The report was the latest in a series of damning indictments by the Commons public accounts and defence committees of the ministry's handling of multi-million pound equipment programmes.

Earlier this year the ministry admitted that nearly half the £8 billion procurement budget was consumed by "unforeseen costs".

The Public Accounts Committee report recalled that GEC Marconi had planned to deliver the first Foxhunter radar to the RAF in January 1983 and to complete delivery by mid-1987. But initial delivery did not begin until March 1985 and final delivery was now forecast for 1991, at a total cost of £800 million at September 1987 prices.

The committee said that development costs had risen by an estimated 63.5 per cent. The MPs also said that the shortage of radars meant an increasing number of new Tornados had to be stored.

Both projects have been at the centre of the battle between the ministry and the select committees because of considerable cost overruns and delays in delivery times.

However, Ministry of Defence sources last night accused the MPs of refusing to accept evidence which had been given to them during the committee hearings.

The public accounts committee focussed on two RAF projects: Foxhunter radar built by GEC Marconi for the Tornado F2 air defence aircraft and the Alarm anti-radiation missile developed by British Aerospace for the Tornado GR1 strike aircraft.

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Earlier this year the ministry admitted that nearly half

Strong resigns over Mappa Mundi sale

By Howard Foster

Sir Roy Strong, the former director of the Victoria and Albert Museum and the National Portrait Gallery, is to resign today from the Herford Cathedral Appeal Committee in protest against the sale of the Mappa Mundi, the cathedral's celebrated medieval map of the world.

Sir Roy said last night that he was deeply disturbed by the decision to sell the map. The move would create a dangerous precedent for impoverished English cathedrals that could lead to the departure of many irreplaceable works.

"When I heard that the map was going to be sold, I was astonished," Sir Roy, who lives seven miles from Herford, said.

"It is what people come to Herford Cathedral to see. I feel particularly upset because between 1979 and 1980 I



Sir Roy, astonished by the cathedral's decision to sell

raised £45,000 to create a cathedral treasury in the crypt so that plate could be displayed to the public there.

"It seems as if all I have done is create a series of showcases for them to display what they are going to sell next."

He hoped the map would be bought by the Government and lent back to the cathedral.

Quick offers, page 3

Collins rebuffs NI bid

William Collins, the Scottish publisher, yesterday rejected a £293 million bid from News International, the newspaper group.

Mr Ian Chapman, the Collins chairman, said the company "emphatically" rejected the "unwelcome" offer and would vigorously contest it.

News International, whose managing director, Mr Rupert Murdoch, sits on the Collins board, already owns 41.7 per cent of the Collins voting rights.

Collins' ordinary shares immediately leapt 137p and closed at 685p, up 142p on the day and 45p above the News International offer of 640p a share. Its imprints include Flamingo, Fontana, Gem and Collins-Longmans. It has operations in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa, as well as in the US.

Details, page 25

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American dream



● The Virgin Islands are *Dynasty* in the Caribbean. Even the fish dazzle with their frivolous, flimsy attire, and a bottle of rum is cheaper than a hamburger. Tomorrow, in colour, *The Times* takes you to paradise

● A pilgrim's progress: the writer Frank Delaney puts himself in the sandals of an Irish monk of the Dark Ages to make a pilgrimage through Europe's sacred sites

● Long day's journey into work: how long-distance commuters combine city salaries and country living

● Fighting fit: the Finnish rally driver Ari Vatanen is back behind the wheel for the RAC

Plus . . .

● Drink! Jane MacQuitty assesses the new Beaujolais; Eating Out: Jonathan Meades on the Roux legend; Cook: Frances Bissell on bread; Books: POWs of the Reich; Classical music: Mahler

WIN £8,000

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

● The £4,000 daily prize was shared yesterday by Mr John Houllihan, of Balham, south-west London, and Mr Nicholas de Celis, of Derby. The Portfolio Accumulator fund stands at £8,000. Prices: pages 31

NEWS ROUNDUP

IRA trio inquest to stay adjourned

The inquest on three unarmed IRA men shot dead six years ago by an undercover police unit seems likely to remain adjourned for days while a High Court judge in Belfast considers an application for a judicial review of the coroner's handling of the hearing.

Mr Justice Carswell yesterday asked for the inquest to remain adjourned until he has heard the case for compelling the three officers responsible for the shootings to give evidence in person rather than by sworn statements not open to cross-examination.

He made the request after adjourning his own court until Monday to give counsel for one of the families time to prepare the application for a judicial review. "I would encourage the coroner to continue to adjourn until this matter has been dealt with", Mr Justice Carswell said. Last night, Mr James Elliot, the coroner, who was present at the High Court, decided not to recall the inquest until a ruling on the review.

Hospital fire kills two

A patient who lit a cigarette in bed in the middle of the night is believed to have started a fire at a mental hospital in north London yesterday in which two men died. More than 120 patients were moved from a wing at the Friern Barnet Hospital as the fire destroyed a male psychiatric ward. Staff moved all but four men: two died, one was injured and another crawled to safety before firemen arrived. Records were destroyed but the hospital's secure unit was untouched.

New motorcycle test

Motorcyclists will from next autumn undergo a more demanding test before qualifying for a driving licence. Mr Peter Bottomley, minister for roads and safety, announced yesterday. Examiners, who at present stand on the pavement and watch the candidate, will now ride a motorcycle or drive behind the rider being tested. Mr Bottomley told a conference of motorcycle retailers: "We must increase the number of new riders taking training now".

Interview cut short

A Northern Ireland BBC Radio interview with a Unionist politician was cut short yesterday after fears that the item might breach the Government's ban on broadcasting material supporting terrorist linked organizations. Mr Barry Cowan, the presenter of Radio Ulster's Talkback programme, interrupted Mr Ivan Foster, a senior member of the Democratic Unionist Party, because he feared the interview could turn into an illegal broadcast. Mr Foster had started to talk about loyalists taking up arms.

Pet birds cancer link

People who keep budgerigars and other pet birds in their homes could be almost seven times more likely to develop lung cancer, according to research published yesterday. Doctors in Holland suggest, in an article in the *British Medical Journal*, that inhaling dust particles and allergens from the birds can trigger a series of changes in the lungs that leads to the disease. They found that birdkeeping, smoking, and a low intake of Vitamin C were "significantly and independently" related to lung cancer.

Drink offences up

The number of people found guilty of or cautioned for drunkenness rose by 22 per cent in England and Wales last year. Most of the increase — from 68,000 to 83,000 — is due to a 50 per cent rise in London, where drunken people are arrested before they can commit more serious offences. Last year, 920 people were found guilty of being drunk in, or when entering, a sports ground. In 1986 the total was 490. *Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Office of Drunkenness, England and Wales 1987*. (Statistics Department, Home Office, Lunar House, Croydon, Surrey CR9 9YD. £2.50).

Legal delays deplored

A High Court judge yesterday strongly criticized the administration of the legal aid scheme. Mr Justice Drake said there was a "quite deplorable state of affairs" resulting in considerable delays in dealing with applications for legal aid.

The delays affected not only "individual litigants but also mean that some cases are not ready for trial when listed", he said. "This in turn disrupts the lists and in that way has a knock-on effect on all other litigants waiting for their case to be heard."

The judge said that the legal aid headquarters "do not have sufficient staff to deal with telephone inquiries and lack the resources to employ such staff". Doors were kept locked "to prevent any callers making inquiries".

Policy on nitrates in water naive, says scientist

By John Young
Attempts to reduce the nitrate level in supplies of drinking water by restricting the use of chemical fertilizers are almost certainly doomed to failure, according to a leading Government scientist.

Professor Kenneth Trebharne, director of research at the Institute of Arable Crops Research in Rothamsted, Hertfordshire, claimed yesterday that the only way the Government could hope to reduce nitrates to within the EEC maximum of 50 parts per million would be to pay the water authorities to install expensive treatment plants.

The belief that the problem could be solved by declaring so-called environmental protection zones, within which farmers would be required to adopt less intensive

People seriously concerned about nitrates would be well advised to reconsider their intake of certain allegedly nutritious vegetables, such as lettuce and celery, for an ordinary lettuce naturally contains about the same amount of nitrate as 10 litres of drinking water, whether it is grown in chemically-treated soil or by organic methods.

farming practices, was naive. It ignored the fact that nitrates could take up to 40 years or more to leach through the soil.

The effect of stopping fertilizer applications now was unlikely to be seen until well into the next century.

Nitrogen fertilizers were not the only culprit or even the main one. Nitrogen occurred naturally in soil

and oxidized into nitrates on exposure to air. Many of the relatively high levels found today were a direct result of the ploughing of grassland during and after the Second World War.

Professor Trebharne said it was equally misleading to claim that a return to organic farming, using natural rather than chemical fertilizers, would improve the situation.

Nitrogen was the most important fertilizer required for plant growth, and just as much was contained in farmyard manure as in an equivalent dose of chemical products.

Experiments at Rothamsted had shown that farmyard manure contained considerably more nitrogen liable to be washed out in the form of nitrates than did chemical

fertilizers. "Organic" plots therefore constituted the greater risk.

Many scientists are surprised at the Government's belief that it can adopt instant legislative "measures" to reduce nitrates, when they have been warning successive governments for many years that the problem was increasing.

Indeed, Professor Trebharne is highly dubious about the effectiveness of water protection zones. To require farmers on some of the most productive arable land in Britain to cease growing crops, and to convert it to grassland, would have a devastating effect on the value of their holdings while being of questionable benefit.

He said that land surrounding the most vulnerable catchment areas would need to continue to be

managed and not left derelict. However, to use it to graze livestock would increase, rather than diminish, the amount of nitrogen applied to the soil through manure.

Critics of the proposals recognize the dilemma faced by the Government and the water authorities in being forced to comply with what are seen as arbitrarily low nitrate restrictions demanded by the EEC, whose levels are only half those recommended by the World Health Organization.

The risks to human health are far from established; the incidence of stomach cancer, itself a relatively rare disease in Britain, is lower in eastern England where nitrate levels in water supplies are high than in the west where such levels are much lower.

Labour goes all out to capture the women's vote

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Shadow Cabinet yesterday adopted a three-year strategy aimed at cutting support for Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Conservatives among women voters.

Labour will give greater priority to issues of family life while attempting to change the perception of the movement as being male-dominated.

The Labour Party will emphasize that its Shadow Cabinet members are mainly family men with young children and emphasis is to be given to policies affecting children's rights, child care and the problems facing women workers.

Each Shadow Cabinet member will give greater priority to the women's perspective on political issues and the party's polling strategists intend to target women aged between 35 and 45 and over 55, where Labour needs to achieve greater support.

Although Miss Jo Richardson, shadow minister for women's affairs, is the only woman in the Shadow Cabinet, the party is to give a higher profile to other women members of shadow teams.

Mr Neil Kinnock has already promoted several of the women backbenchers and several are expected to achieve greater national exposure during the forthcoming parliamentary session in dealing with opposition to such issues as water privatization.

Mr Kinnock said: "I think the fact that Mrs Thatcher has been for all these years leader of the Conservative Party and Prime Minister has obscured what would otherwise be a strong impression of a male-dominated Conservative Party."

"I have no doubt at some

date in the future a significant proportion, conceivably the majority of the Shadow Cabinet and then the Cabinet formed by Labour will be women and Labour will have a woman leader."

He said Labour wanted for the first time in electoral history to have more women voters supporting them than the Conservatives.

The party would highlight issues of growing importance to families in Britain. Those included maternity and paternity leave, programmes for women wishing to go back to jobs after having children, child care provision and the problems for women looking after elderly relatives.

The Shadow Cabinet, meeting for a two-day strategy session at Rottingdean, East Sussex, was given a presentation which showed that in 1983 the Conservatives had a 20-point lead among women voters but by the last general election Labour had closed the "gender gap".

Mr Roy Hattersley last night accused the Government of imperilling the rule of law (Nicholas Wood writes). Labour's deputy leader said that Mrs Thatcher's administration had come dangerously close to creating an "elective dictatorship" in which a disenfranchised minority might feel justified in breaking the law.

Nevertheless, Mr Hattersley urged his supporters to stay within bounds for fear of losing public support. In the aftermath of the Govan by-election defeat his comment will be seen as a rebuke to Labour MPs urging illegal non-payment of the poll tax.

Woman held by ANC is freed



By Mark Souster

Miss Elizabeth Forsyth, the British-born journalist trapped in Angola for six months, with her father, Peter, after she returned to Britain yesterday. Miss Forsyth, aged 27, sought sanctuary in the British Embassy in Luanda in May, claiming she had been held and tortured by the African National Congress which

had accused her of spying for South Africa.

At Heathrow airport, after an overnight flight from Angola, Miss Forsyth refused to talk about her experiences or comment on the spying allegations.

But Mr Forsyth, who had flown from the family home in Pretoria to meet his daughter, described the allegations as "horse feathers... that is a polite way of saying rubbish."

The Angolan authorities had refused to grant Miss Forsyth an exit visa but finally bowed to pressure from the British Government after a visit to Angola by Mrs Linda Chalker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was threatened.

Gatwick to call in the stress experts

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Air travellers faced with long delays at Gatwick airport next summer will be able to call on the services of a "stress counsellor" to help them to cope with the frustrations of spending hours in overcrowded terminals.

The counselling service is part of a contingency plan being drawn up by the airport to tackle any repeat of last summer's peak when thousands of passengers had to spend hours at the airport waiting for their flights to be given air traffic control clearance.

Gatwick airport officials and local authorities have agreed to make play groups available to take small children; prepare community halls and hotels near by to house people stranded overnight; and arrange for stand by local entertainers to come in at a moment's notice.

Dozens more police, if necessary, will

be provided to cope with trouble-makers. Every available marquee, collapsible chair and trestle table in the area will be reserved. Local catering firms will be asked to give priority to providing additional meals for delayed passengers.

A hot line will be opened to local social services so that stress experts can be drafted in if passengers begin to show signs of emotional or psychological distress.

Senior managers from Gatwick have been called to an emergency weekend meeting to refine the plans. But the signs are beginning to look ominous. Airlines now meeting in Montreal to plan their schedules for next summer are seeking a 50 per cent increase in the number of flights from Gatwick next summer compared with last year.

Although many of these are unlikely to be taken up even a tiny increase will be

impossible for the single runway to cope with. Mr Guy Bell, managing director of Gatwick airport, said last night that it was unlikely that there could be more than a 1 per cent increase in take offs in peak periods next summer. "The airlines will just have to go to Stansted, where there is a vast amount of available capacity".

The Civil Aviation Authority is to create a special unit in the control tower at Gatwick with the sole aim of finding available take off slots and "auctioning" them around the airlines. Those that are ready to go and able to get their passengers on board will be offered the slot even if it is ahead of the scheduled departure time.

BAA, formerly the British Airports Authority, says it will be submitting proposals to the Government for creating new terminal and runway capacity in the South-east early next year.

Attack on Tebbit 'inevitable'

Student chief backs protest

By Sam Kiley
Higher Education Reporter

Union officials at the Polytechnic of North London yesterday condemned the actions of youths who jeered and spat upon Mr Norman Tebbit during a demonstration at the college on Wednesday.

Executives of the students' union said the demonstration during Mr Tebbit's visit was a "spontaneous outburst of anger at the Government's education policies".

Mr Steven Brown, vice-president of the union, said that the disruption was supported by the executive.

"Under different circumstances, we would have attempted to have engaged Mr Tebbit in debate, but the nature of the day meant that we did not."

"On a day of action (called by the National Union of Students in protest at student loans) if a Tory party figure who represents so much of the party's policies comes here a spontaneous outburst of anger is unavoidable", he said.

Mr Brown accused the Polytechnic Conservative Club of

University vice-chancellors will today ask Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to guarantee that assurances on academic freedom and funding given to Parliament during debates on the Education Reform Bill will not be broken.

One vice-chancellor said: "We are concerned that the Secretary of State is now doing precisely what he said he would not do and that is to take power over all university funding. Even if Mr Baker is not breaking the law, he is certainly going against the spirit of assurances he gave us. He told us not to worry, that everything would be all right. Everything is not, and we are."

"deliberate provocation. They have fewer than 10 members which shows the level of support for their beliefs", he said.

Mr Leslie Wagner, polytechnic director, yesterday launched an internal inquiry into the demonstration.

Two activists responsible for much of the jeering that drowned a speech by the former chairman of the Conservative Party went into

hiding after their photographs appeared in newspapers. The men, aged about 20, refused to talk to the press.

The union condemned reports that Mr Tebbit had been taunted about his wife, injured in the IRA Brighton bomb attack four years ago.

"There were no taunts about Mr Tebbit's wife nor the Brighton bomb. We are absolutely disgusted at the misrepresentation of events in the press", it said.

Miss Ruth Gee, deputy director of the polytechnic, said the authorities had taken all the necessary precautions required of the Poly under Section 43 of the 1986 Education Act.

"We are satisfied that our procedures were adequate to ensure that we complied with legislation requiring us to provide an environment to foster free speech, and deplore the behaviour of the students who disrupted the meeting."

She said that the Polytechnic statute allowed for punishments to vary from an informal reprimand to suspension or dismissal for the offences.

Campaign to market rural visits

By John Young

Leaders of the English Tourist Board, the Countryside Commission and the Rural Development Commission joined forces at a conference in London yesterday to promote the benefits to both the economy and the environment of attracting millions more visitors to the countryside.

Delegates saw a video film pointing out that the scenery of the Welsh Marches had hitherto been inadequately marketed, a situation the board intends to rectify with a three-year promotional campaign.

Mr Duncan Bluck, its chairman, said that the revenue from rural tourism, at present £3,000 million a year, could grow by £600 million in the next four years.

"Visitors are now an unbeatable source of income and jobs for rural communities", Mr John East, the board's chief executive, said. "Many new tourist developments are needed to cater for the growing demand." Rural customs and heritage were all natural attractions.

Kafka manuscript sets literary record

The autographed manuscript of Franz Kafka's *The Trial* was saved for the West German nation yesterday when Herr Heribert Tenschert, the Munich dealer, bid £1.1 million for it on behalf of the West German government at Sotheby's London.

The price, on its lower estimate, was a record for a modern manuscript, far exceeding that of £250,000 for W B Yeats's vellum notebook of poems in July 1985.

The USSR, making a first official appearance in the auction room, bought an important autograph letter by Alexander Pushkin for £33,000 (estimate £15,000 to

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

The manuscript of *The Trial*, comprising 316 leaves ripped from exercise books, and written in Kafka's sweeping hand, has survived a number of close shaves since completion in 1914.

Max Brod, Kafka's friend, defied the author's wishes to burn all manuscripts after his death, then, in 1939 took it with him when he escaped from Prague the night before

the Nazis took over. Finally, Mr Brod carried the manuscript to safety at the onslaught of the Israeli war in 1967. Now it is destined for permanent safe retreat at the Literary Institute Archive at Marbach near Stuttgart.

In the Pushkin letter, written to Alexandre Vassimare, the ventriloquist, the author tries to console his friend after efforts to get him work have failed. "I am sure in the past the USSR has bought Russian things", Roy Davids of Sotheby's said afterwards, "but this was the first time in my experience that the name 'Cultural Foundation of the USSR' has been made public."

This must be Glasnost."

A second edition of the Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx sold on its lower estimate at Sotheby's, for £22,000.

The document by which the Pope excommunicated Napoleon Bonaparte for storming Rome in 1809, sold to the London dealer Joseph for £7,700 (estimate up to £6,000).

Five items removed from Northumberland House in the Strand when it was demolished in 1874, and consigned by the Duke of Northumberland just before his death last month fetched impressive prices at Christie's London.

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Cash penalties and early contracts plan to curb gazumping

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor yesterday ruled out legislation to curb gazumping but put forward a series of other measures, such as the Scottish system of early binding contracts or the loss of a deposit for withdrawing from a sale without good reason.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern said that the best way to tackle gazumping was not to change the law but to bring about changes in practice and in "expectations."

In an address to Bristol Law Society he outlined three different options for counteracting gazumping.

One was the Scottish system where offers for a property were invited by a particular time on a particular day, and

on an offer being accepted a binding contract was concluded. There was nothing in law to prevent this practice in the rest of the country, he said.

Second, there was the pre-contract deposit agreement, according to which a defaulting party would forfeit the deposit if he or she withdrew from the agreement without good reason.

Third, there was the conditional contract which could bind both parties at a relatively early stage but which could be dropped if something in the nature of a bad survey or unfavourable searches subsequently came to light.

One vital area where improvements could be made was in the information given

to buyers by their professional advisers. The public needed more informed choice, he said. The present system in England and Wales for house buying involved a lengthy period of time between a price being agreed and a binding contract being entered into.

For many the present system might be the best there was. If that was so, there were still practical improvements that could be made.

"The shorter the time lag between the initial agreement and contract, the less opportunity there will be for gazumping - I know this is an area being looked at by the solicitors' profession and this is an area where I would welcome improvements."

Lord Mackay said buyers did not always understand that their initial agreement with the seller was not a binding legal contract and were "understandably upset" when either a higher price was subsequently asked or the sale fell through.

Legal advisers should ensure that both sides understood the true position, he said. They should make clear to clients that there was a "balance of advantage and disadvantage" in all modes of dealing.

Lord Mackay's comments coincide with proposals from the Law Commission's standing committee on conveyancing this week, which suggest that the responsibility for establishing any defects in a home for sale should be the responsibility of the vendor and not the potential buyer.

Timeshare operators warned by Minister

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The timeshare industry must do more to stamp out unacceptable trade practices such as high pressure selling and misleading marketing methods, Mr Eric Forth, Under-Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs, said in London yesterday.

Welcoming efforts by the Timeshare Developers Association to clean up its image, Mr Forth told a conference organised by the Association that high pressure selling and marketing methods had given the industry a bad name.

While the Government had no quarrel with the concept of timeshare itself, he said that there was concern at the bad practices. "There is no doubt that high pressure selling has caused emotional and financial distress to some consumers. To some extent the industry has brought the problems on itself."

Mr Graham Williams, TDA chairman, told the conference, held to celebrate the Association's first birthday, that the industry was putting its house in order.

Lecturer is cleared of rape

Reginald Wallace, a university lecturer, was yesterday cleared of raping a student while performing a bizarre spiritual ritual.

He had denied raping the first-year pupil, aged 22, in her Exeter University room after persuading her that he possessed special powers that would help her to pass examinations.

The jury at Exeter Crown Court took two-and-a-half hours to find Mr Wallace, aged 48, of Okehampton Road, Exeter, not guilty. He was also cleared by a majority verdict of attempted rape.

The student, who earlier sobbed as she spoke about the alleged ordeal, was not present in court to hear the outcome

but her mother shouted from the public gallery: "Someone will kill you."

The prosecution had claimed the student agreed to strip to her underpants and lie on the bed while Mr Wallace performed the "spiritual treatment". She described how he rubbed ointment on his hands, chanted and crossed her chest with the side of his palm.

She claimed he promised not to harm her but as she lay rigid with fear beneath him he allegedly raped her.

When questioned by detectives, Mr Wallace denied the incident, claiming to be with his wife in the afternoon in question in May 1987.

But forensic scientists using

DNA fingerprinting techniques on blood and sperm found in the room proved there was only one in 40 million chance another man was responsible.

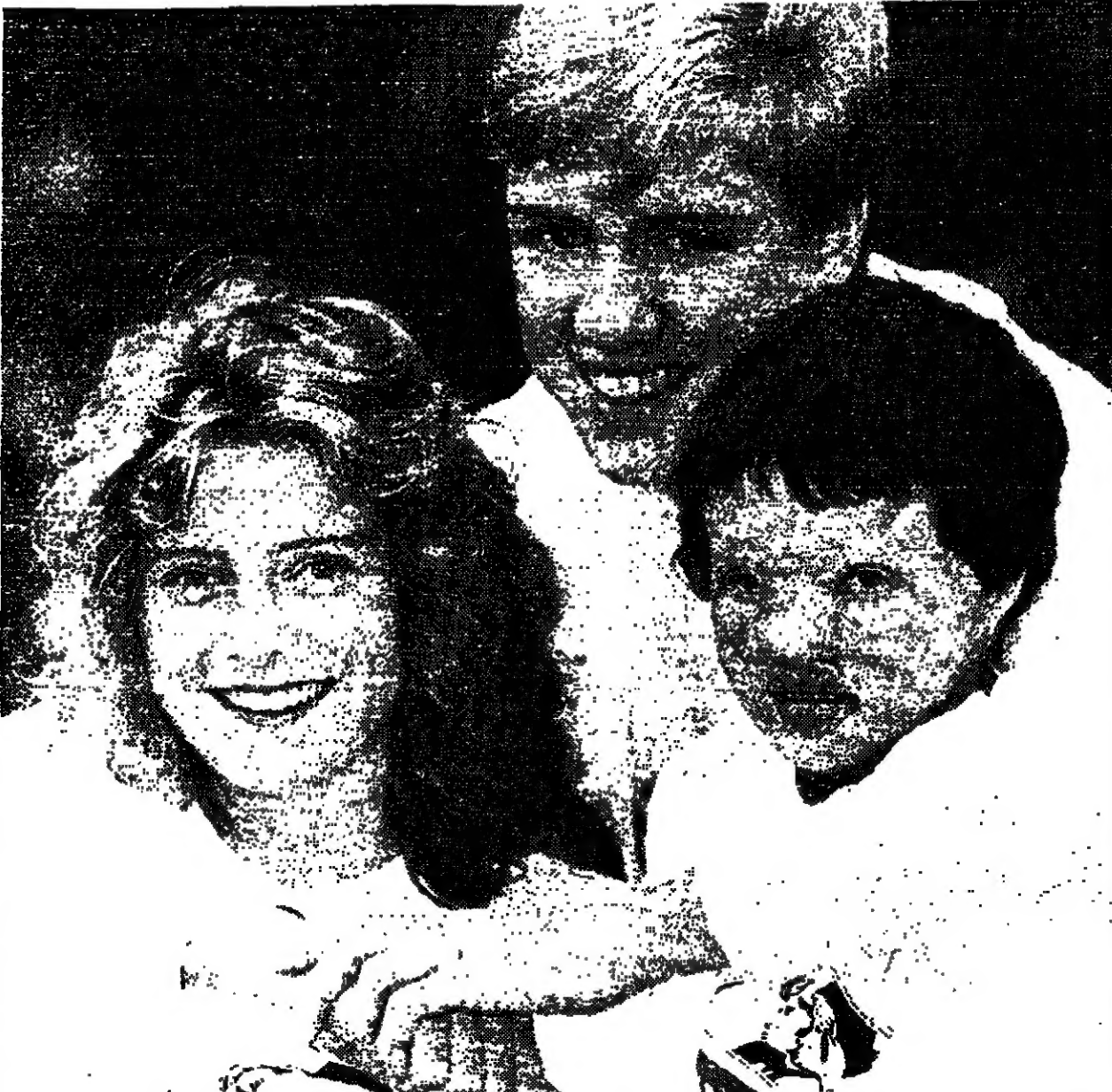
Mr Neil Butterfield, QC, for the lecturer, told the jury Mr Wallace had lied to police for the sake of his career and marriage.

"How many men facing this decision lie out of shame?" he asked. Mr Butterfield said the intelligent, sexually experienced student understood what was happening in the room that afternoon.

"In common sense and reality what the girl has described is sexual activity. She plainly consented to it."

Winners in a brave young world

ADRIAN BROOKS



Champion Children: award winners Rebecca Halliwell (left), Stephen Ross and Caroline Tucker at the Savoy yesterday

By Emma Wilkins
The Princess of Wales, President of Barnardo's, commended the extreme courage and determination of 19 young people when she presented the Champion Children of the Year awards at the Savoy Hotel yesterday.

One of the three bravery award winners was Caroline Tucker, aged 12, who suffered 75 per cent burns to her face and arms while trying to rescue her sister, aged four, during a fire at their home in Swansea. She ran back into the burning house when she realised her sister was still inside. "I didn't think about myself, I just wanted my sister to be safe," she said. She was beaten back

by smoke and forced to jump from a first floor window. Her sister died in the blaze.

Stephen Ross, aged 16, who was injured in the Emskillen bomb last Remembrance Day shared the award for bravery. He was buried under concrete which shattered his jaw, cheek bones and legs. Although a keen footballer, he may never be able to play again. "It is not fair that I should be singled out," he said. "I am representing all the people who suffered in the bomb. It is better to try to forget what happened because if you harbour memories and bitterness, that is what the IRA wants."

The third bravery award winner was Rebecca Halliwell, aged 15, who gave the

kiss of life to a boy knocked from his bicycle by a car. She realised he was dead but continued heart massage in an attempt to revive him. "I did not want his father, who had seen the accident, to receive that kind of shock," she said.

The 19 winners, also commended for achievements in sport, drama, music, dance and art, were selected from more than 1,000 nominations during the year.

Children in Need, the BBC Television, will be launched this evening with the hope of bettering the £14 million raised for children's charities last year. For the first time some of the money will be donated to national organizations, including the Save the Children Fund

Mother's plea to hunted worker

By Ronald Faux

The mother of David John Evans, the farm worker wanted for questioning by North Wales police after the disappearance of Anna Humphries yesterday urged him to get in touch with her or the police.

Meanwhile the police are checking on a man named Evans who bought a ticket on a hovercraft flight from Dover to Boulogne on Wednesday last week.

Yesterday Mrs Kathleen Evans, speaking to television and press reporters at Ruabon police station in Clwyd, said: "John, if you are watching or listening, please let us know where you are. I am worrying myself sick about you."

"People are knocking on our door and I am finding it very difficult to cope. Whenever you are, please get in touch with me, please John, get in touch with me as soon as you can or get in touch with the police."

Mrs Evans, aged 57, and her husband Dennis have been under police guard at their home in Bettisfield on the Welsh border ever since David Evans, aged 31, left home and bought a one-way ticket to Dover hours after Anna Humphries, aged 15, was reported missing.

Police said yesterday that the man giving his name as Evans bought a ticket on the 12.11 pm hovercraft from Dover to Boulogne on Wednesday last week. It was a service that David Evans could have caught.

Detectives in Dover are trying to contact other passengers on the hovercraft, which landed in Boulogne at 12.50 pm. Mr Evans took his passport when he left home.

Police believe he could try to get casual work as a farm labourer and Interpol has been asked to help to trace him. The search for the missing girl by local police and mountain rescue units in countryside around Penley and Much Wenlock continued yesterday.

Inland Revenue to repay £20,000 to Shilton

Peter Shilton, the England goalkeeper, was yesterday awarded about £20,000 in the High Court, London, after he claimed the Inland Revenue had made him pay too much in tax.

Shilton, aged 39, claimed that the Inland Revenue had been wrong in demanding income tax on a "golden handshake" of £75,000.

The payment was made by Nottingham Forest when Shilton left the team

in 1982. Mr Justice Morritt ordered the Inland Revenue to repay about £20,000 to Shilton.

In 1982 Southampton paid a £325,000 transfer fee to Nottingham Forest for Shilton. The goalkeeper was paid an £80,000 sign-on fee from Southampton.

He was given a separate payment of £75,000 by Nottingham Forest but the Inland Revenue claimed £45,000 of it

in tax. According to the judgement the Inland Revenue should have claimed only about £25,000.

The judge said the Nottingham Forest payment was a separate deal to make sure Shilton left the team before his contract ran out in 1983, otherwise the team stood to lose the full transfer fee.

The payment had nothing to do with Shilton's future at Southampton,

and was not income from his playing, the judge said. He ordered the Inland Revenue to re-assess Shilton's taxable income and to pay costs.

The judgement grants added protection to footballers for transfer payments.

The Inland Revenue, which will now have to look more carefully at "golden handshakes" before taxing them, is considering an appeal.

Sale of cathedral treasures

Mappa Mundi attracts £2.5m offers

By Craig Seton, Peter Mulligan and Sarah Jane Checkland

Several private offers were made yesterday to buy the Mappa Mundi. Hereford Cathedral's celebrated medieval map of the world, which is to be auctioned by Sotheby's next June.

It was understood last night that the cathedral received offers from a private collector and a consortium within 24 hours of announcing that the map was to be sold on the open market, creating fears that it would be lost to the nation.

The offers are believed to have been for amounts close to the figure of more than £2.5 million which Sotheby's estimates the thirteenth-century Mappa Mundi will fetch at auction.

It also emerged yesterday that more cathedrals may be forced to sell off treasures to raise funds.

Dr Richard Gem, of the Cathedrals Advisory Commission for England, emphasized that, if faced with severe financial hardship, cathedrals owning "very important treasures" would sell them. Fig-

ures on cathedral finances are not held centrally by the Church but it is understood that more appeals for cash are to be launched among the 42 cathedrals of England. They are believed to be seeking a total of £47 million, mainly for maintaining the fabric of the buildings.

As the outcry over the impending sale of the Mappa Mundi intensified, Canon John Tiller, Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral, emphasized that the cathedral would not abandon its intention to sell the map to the highest bidder. It decided to sell it after failing to negotiate a private sale to the nation of all its treasures to raise the £7 million it needs to avoid bankruptcy.

Lord Gowrie, chairman of Sotheby's and a former minister for the arts, denied that there was any muddle over the proposed sale.

"Sotheby's were asked to act as advisers about what they should do about their Ex. Our advice was that the map was the only separate item. We

said we would try to do a sale to the nation or to a private collector, and if that breaks down we can sell it on the open market."

Canon Tiller said it would be "irresponsible" of the cathedral to accept a lower price for the Mappa Mundi in order to save it for the nation if it could be sold for more on the open market. "Our first priority is to the secure the future of the cathedral. I appreciate the public interest involved, but it must be for others to consider how the nation's interests can be safeguarded."

The Dean of Hereford, the Very Rev Peter Haynes, however, said he would be "very interested indeed" if British institutions believed they could help save the Mappa Mundi for the nation. "We would be always open to suggestions", he said.

According to the Very Rev Hugh Dickinson, Dean of Salisbury, where one of the four original copies of the Magna Carta is held, cathedrals are jointly seeking about

£47 million. He said: "If we had to choose, which fortunately we do not, between keeping the spire standing and selling the Magna Carta to the Americans, there is no choice."

"It is obvious that one would have to sell the Magna Carta. But it would be a terrible indictment of our national life if that decision was forced upon us."

● The National Heritage Memorial Fund announced yesterday that it has contributed £210,000 to save an important watercolour by the British artist Thomas Girtin on behalf of the National Gallery of Scotland.

The painting, showing the village of Jedburgh, and valued at £345,000, has been bought from the Leger Galleries of London.

It also announced that Paxton House, Berwickshire, the home of Mr John Home Robertson, Labour MP for East Lothian, is to be acquired by a new charitable trust which will contribute £2.7 million. The house will open to the public in 1991.

Worldwide broadcasting

News groups form global TV alliance

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A new force in international television news, centred in London, was disclosed yesterday involving Reuters, the United States-based National Broadcasting Company and the BBC.

NBC is spending \$10 million (£5.5 million) to buy a 37.75 per cent holding in Visnews, the world's largest television news agency, whose headquarters are in London. Reuters will retain a controlling interest in the agency with a 51 per cent share, while the BBC stake will remain at 11.25 per cent.

The new alliance coincided with the announcement that Visnews is to provide news and other facilities to Sky Television for its 24-hour Sky News channel when it is launched next February. Sky is paying \$30 million over five years for the service.

NBC will work together with Visnews and the BBC in the global production and marketing of television news. The

10-year agreement provides that NBC will supply to Visnews all its news and news products for worldwide exploitation.

In return, Visnews will supply all its news to NBC for use in broadcast and cable transmission inside the US. Because of its worldwide brief, Visnews has told its London newsroom staff the British Government ban on interviews with members of paramilitary organizations in Northern Ireland will not be applicable.

Mr Stephen Claypole, head of news, said in an internal memo: "Visnews will continue to carry interviews in direct speech with members of Republican or Loyalist paramilitary organizations, their political wings or anybody who supports their causes."

Visnews is expected to try in the 1990s to replace Independent Television News as the news organization supplying

national news to independent television companies.

● British Satellite Broadcasting, which hopes to launch three direct-to-home satellite television channels next autumn, confirmed last night its original budget of £625 million will not be enough. High programme costs have contributed to the shortfall and the company's chiefs may now have to raise up to £1 billion to finance their venture.

● Mr Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, is to be executive chairman of Sky Television, which is launching four satellite channels early next year, it was announced yesterday.

His appointment will be for a limited period to cover the launch of Sky, Britain's first direct-to-home satellite television service and he will continue to edit the newspaper, *News International* said. Sir James Crutcher becomes deputy chairman.

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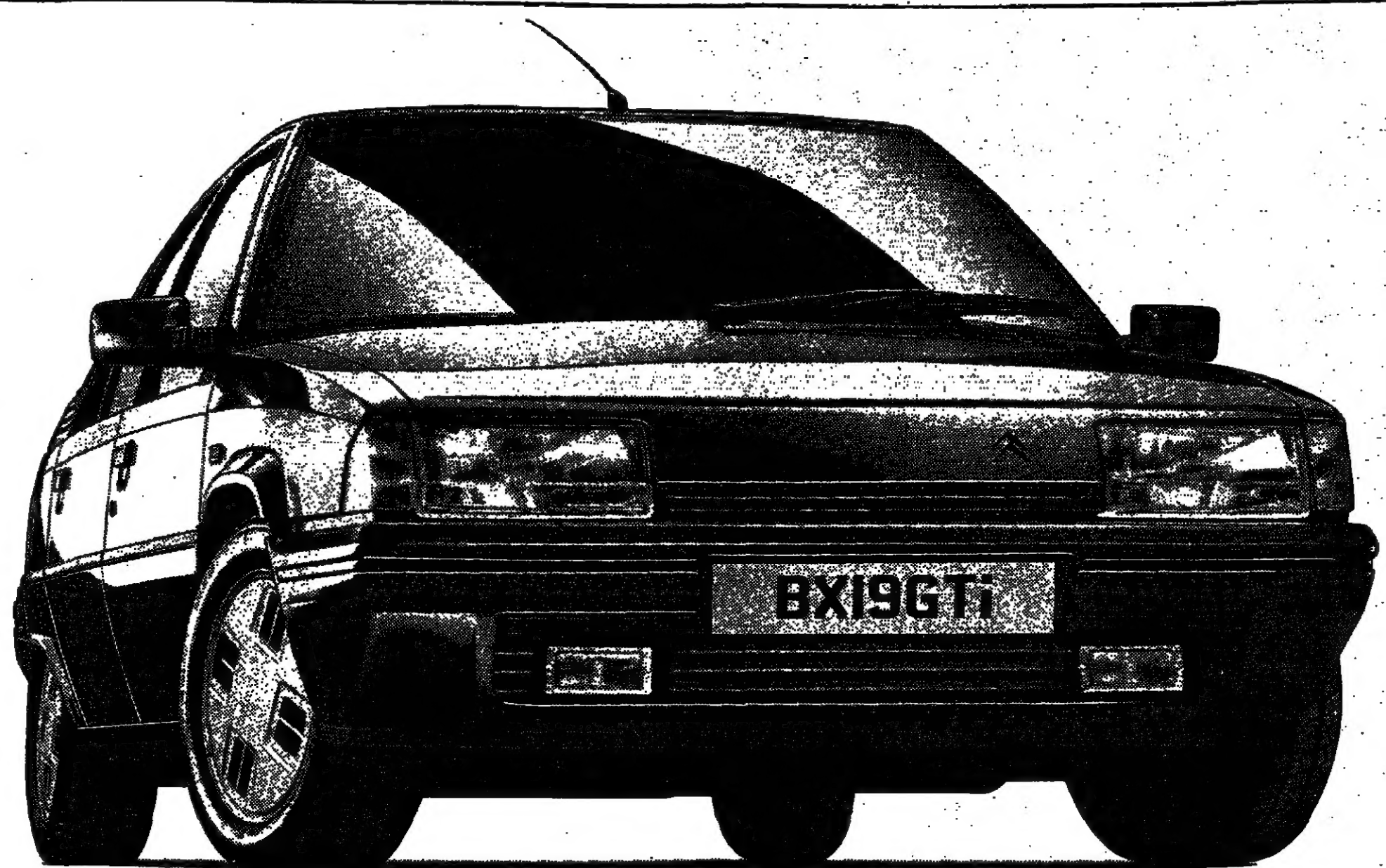
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15.30	16.45	15.30	16.40
17.30	18.40	17.30	18.40
19.30	20.45	19.30	20.40
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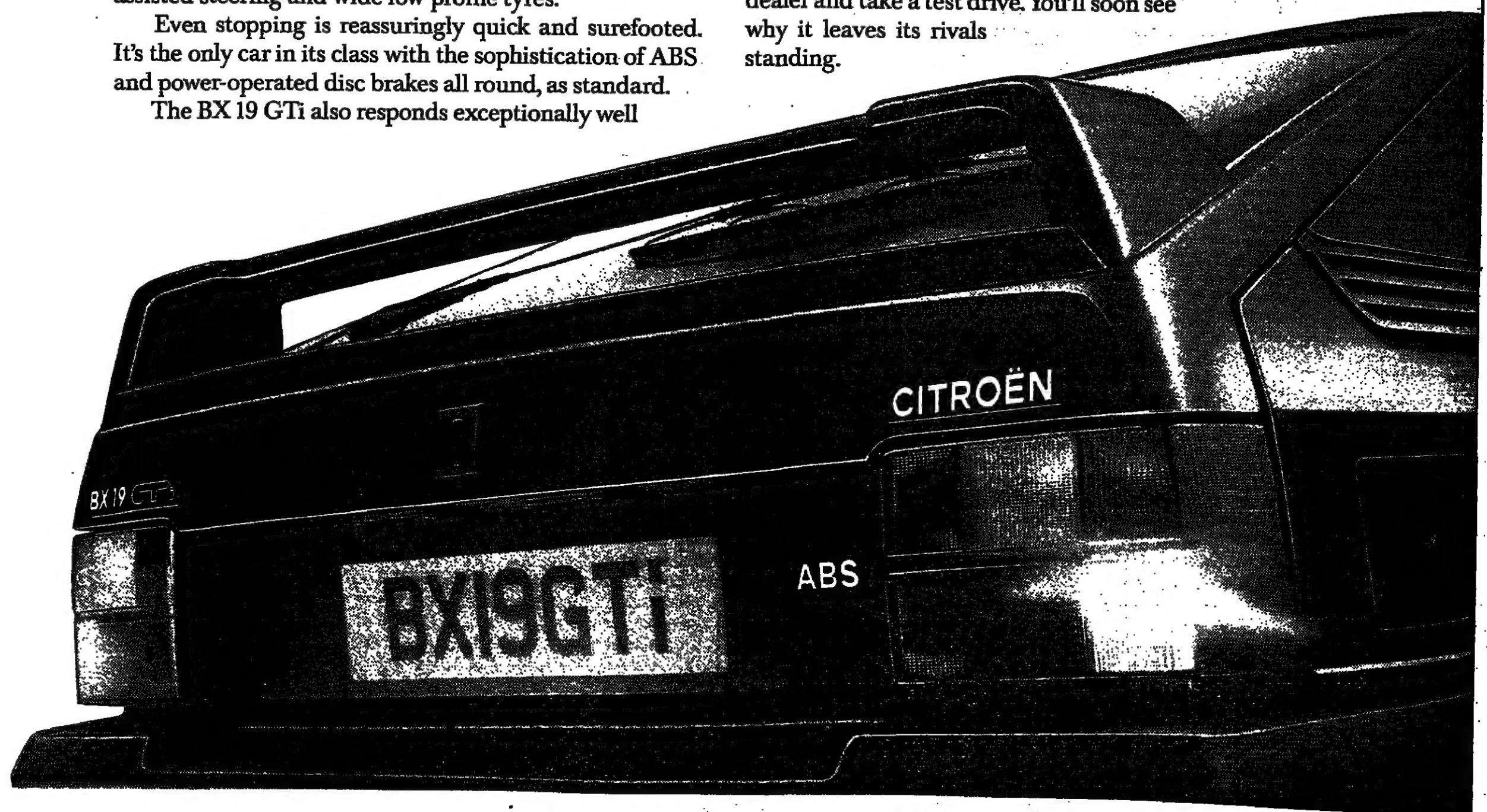
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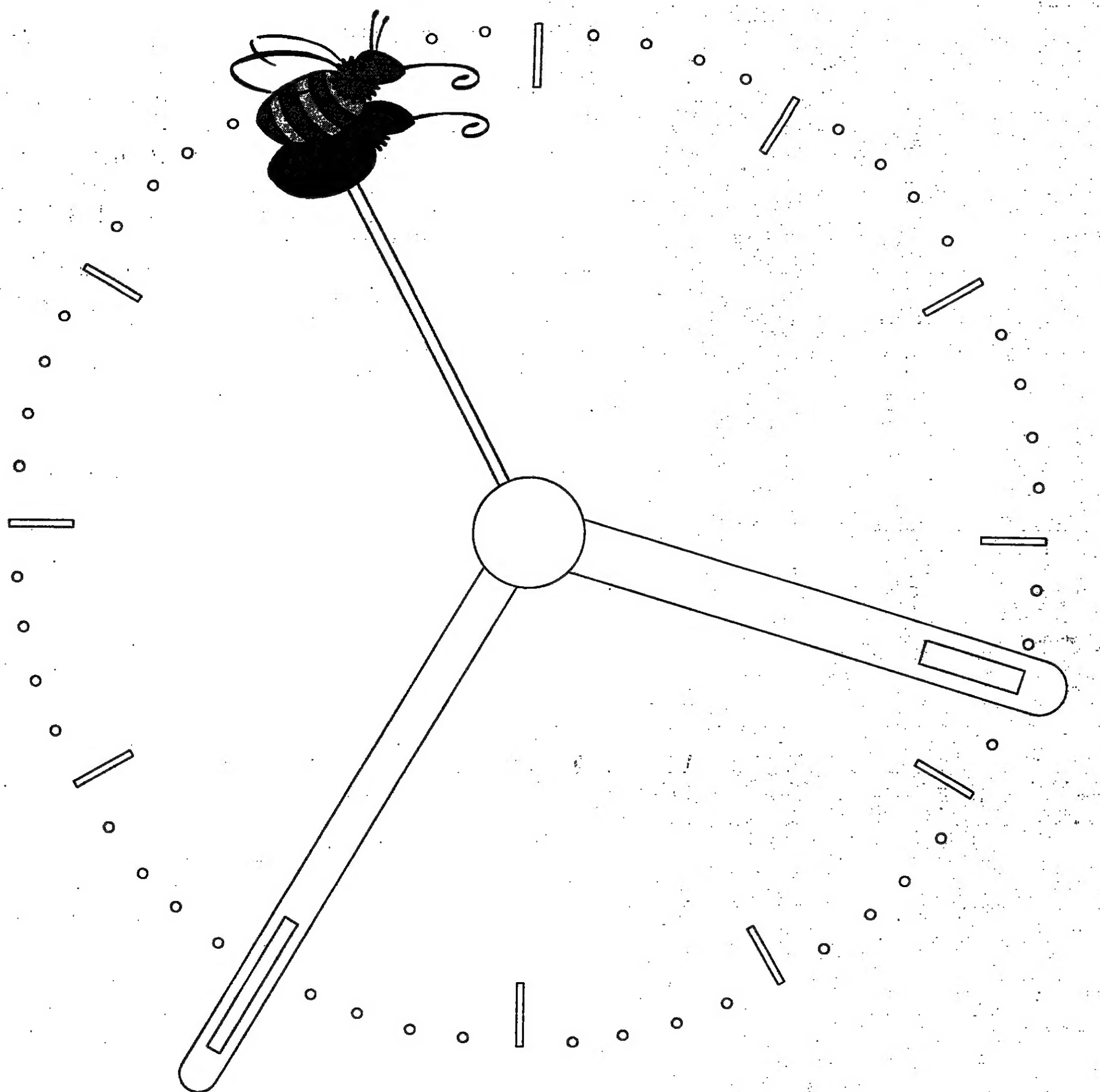
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generation

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Hume leads call for action on pub bombings verdicts

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A delegation led by Cardinal Hume and including two former home secretaries has called on the Government to re-appraise the convictions in the Guildford public house bombings case of 1975.

They say new evidence makes the verdicts "unsafe and unsatisfactory".

Cardinal Hume, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, Mr Merlyn Rees, and Lords Devlin and Scarman, two retired law lords, have urged Mr Douglas Hurd to make a "speedy decision" in the case.

They say in a strongly worded letter to the Home Secretary that they are "even more convinced than ever" that there is an overwhelming argument for the cases of the Guildford Four and the Maguire Seven, who were convicted of handling explosives, to be re-investigated and re-appraised.

"Justice can only be seen to have been done if this course is taken", they say.

Some pieces of new evidence "in themselves unquestionably warrant a re-investigation of the case",

Two men charged with murdering two soldiers dragged from their car during an IRA funeral were sent for trial by a magistrate in Belfast yesterday. A third was freed.

A video film, taken from an army helicopter, was shown to the court, providing a graphic picture of the partly-clothed soldiers struggling with their captors. The men were shown being beaten and kicked.

One gunman shot several times at one of the bodies, then the gun was passed to another man, who fired more shots.

such as the medical opinion that one of the Guildford Four, Carole Richardson, was given a pethidine injection shortly before making the confession on which alone she was convicted.

The letter says that in the view of "each and every one of us" it is "highly unlikely" that a jury, presented at the trial with the evidence now available, would have convicted the defendants.

It is more than 15 months since the delegation presented the Home Secretary with a submission on the case. He

Mr Basil McIvor, the magistrate, did not require to see the video evidence against Henry Maguire, aged 28, and Alexander Murphy, aged 30, saying he was satisfied with the statements that there was evidence for the men to face trial.

Mr Maguire, from Frithill Park, and Mr Murphy, from Rossmore Avenue, were returned to custody for trial at Belfast Crown Court. Patrick McGee, aged 32, from Harrogate Street, Belfast, was released.

set up an inquiry by Avon and Somerset police, which reported last May.

The Home Office says a decision on the cases is not expected for some weeks, a delay that has "impelled" the delegation to release the letter, Cardinal Hume says.

He points out that the Guildford Four — Patrick Armstrong, Paul Hill, Gerard Conlon and Carole Richardson — were convicted solely on their own confessions.

The Court of Appeal in 1977 described the confessions as the "partially true

intermingled with the deliberately false" yet they were the only evidence for the prosecution at the trials, he says.

He also points out that at the Court of Appeal hearing, Joseph O'Connell and Brendan Dowd, two members of the IRA, admitted their parts in the Guildford and Woolwich bombings.

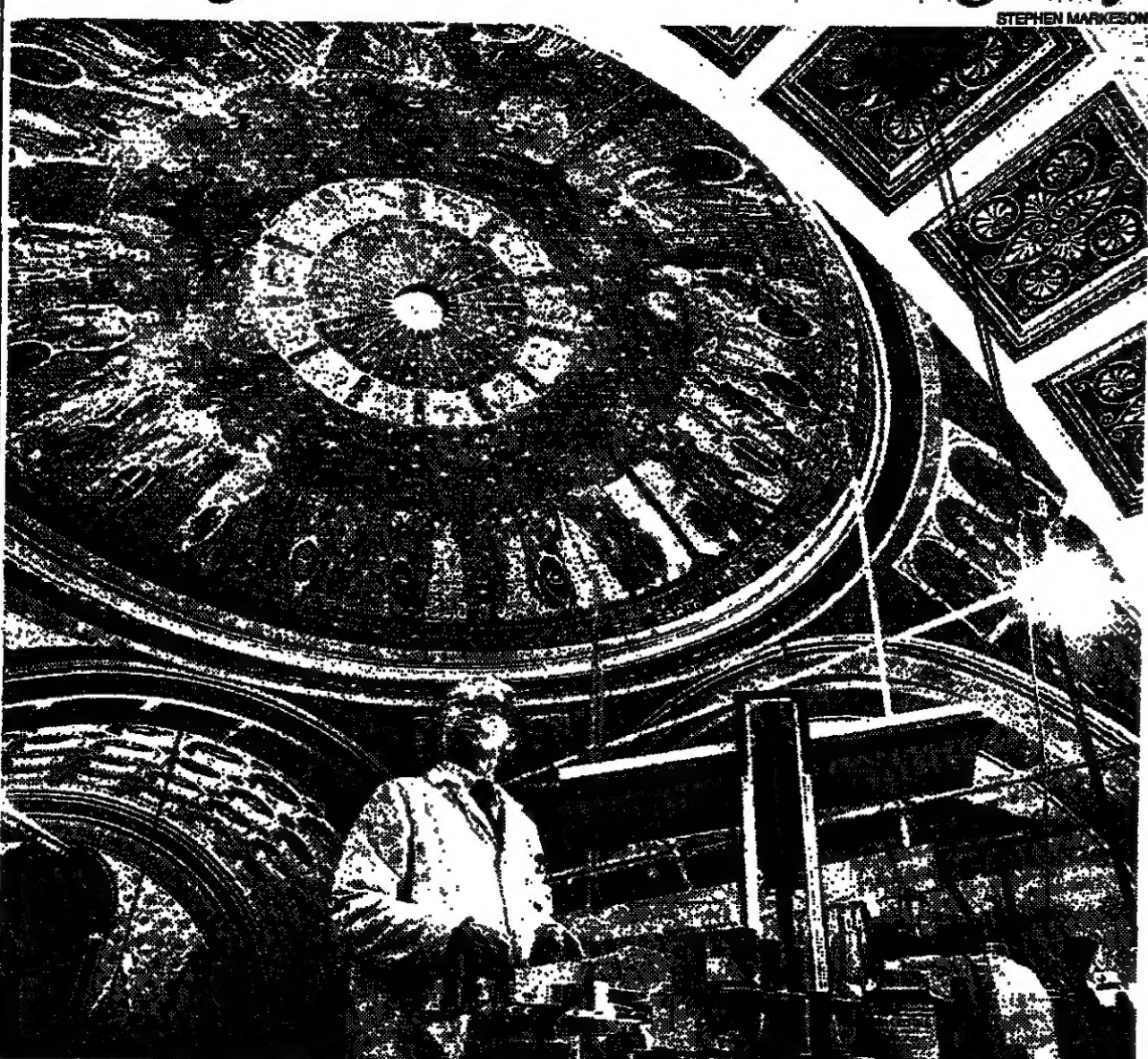
The Court of Appeal refused to believe the other part of their evidence in which they claimed the Guildford Four were not also involved.

Cardinal Hume urges Mr Hurd "to stand back and assess the whole scene". When all the evidence is taken together, the cumulative weight of probability points to the very great unlikelihood of any of those convictions being "safe and satisfactory".

The Guildford Four have consistently maintained that their confessions were made under duress.

Apart from the medical evidence about Richardson, there is also evidence before the Home Office from seven people who say they saw or had contact with Conlon at the time he was supposed to be carrying out the bombings.

Foreign Office restores its glory



Mr Dick Jones, of International Fine Art Studios, at work yesterday on restoring the grand staircase at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in Whitehall. His task is part of a £30 million refurbishment programme started in 1984.

Youth admits he lied over schoolgirl killing

A youth told a murder trial yesterday that when a girl claimed she had stabbed another girl to death, he thought she was joking because she was "high" after a snuffing session.

However, under cross-examination, he admitted that his evidence of the accused girl saying she had stabbed someone was a lie. Mr Paul Mumford,

aged 19, a printing worker, of St Michael's Road, Northampton, was giving evidence on the third day of the trial at Northampton Crown Court where a girl, aged 13, is accused of murdering Carol Baldwin, aged 13.

She denies the charge, and an alternative charge of manslaughter.

Giving evidence later, a girl aged 16,

now in care in Lancashire, told the court that the accused had confessed to her in the month after Carol's murder. She said the defendant told her she had been in Lings Wood Park, Northampton, with a boy and girl, and that the boy had told her to stab Carol for a laugh because she had been two-timing him.

The trial continues today.

Don loses appeal over bar punch-up

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Dons at the University of Ulster in Coleraine yesterday voted to ban an English lecturer from their common room after a scuffle which left the dean of humanities with a cut eye and split lip.

The lecturer, Mr Andrew Waterman, appealed for the lifting of a ban imposed on him by the senior common room committee earlier this month. It had been alleged that he had struck Professor Brian Manning during a dispute over the merits of the novels of Daniel Defoe and Henry Fielding.

Mr Waterman, a poet, admitted "clocking him one" but alleged that Professor Manning, aged 60, had

punched him four times and knocked off his glasses. Battle commenced late in the evening of September 29 when the senior common room bar was empty and when the barman, Mr Joseph McCormick, a lecturer in social anthropology, was briefly absent. There were no witnesses.

Professor Manning was found bleeding by Mr McCormick and taken to hospital. The senior common room committee acted when the university threatened to withdraw support for the bar licence. The common room committee then decided to "permanently exclude" Mr Waterman from the bar.

At yesterday's meeting Mr Waterman

alleged that Professor Manning had gone "berserk" when he said that Defoe's novel *Moll Flanders* was boring and repetitive and should be taken off the first-year undergraduate syllabus and replaced with Fielding's *Joseph Andrews*. Mr Waterman alleges that Professor Manning was celebrating the end of his four-year term as dean.

Professor Manning was not at yesterday's meeting.

He had earlier denied provoking the attack and told the committee that he was unconscious for a time after having been knocked to the floor by Mr Waterman.

Weekend food prices

DIY Christmas cake pack

Safeway and Presto stores have the answer for those who would like to make their own Christmas cake without the bother of buying all the ingredients separately. In one pack there are precisely measured dried fruit, flour, soft brown sugar, walnuts, ground almonds, peel, cherries and ground mixed spice.

All that is left to supply are 6 oz of butter, three eggs and plenty of elbow grease. It also includes the baking tin. At £2.95 it is great value but in real terms it only costs £1 as they are giving away money-off coupons worth £1.95.

Beef and lamb prices are up considerably this week and pork, which changes very little, seems to be on an upward trend also. Topside and silverside of beef is up 5p a lb in the South-east and 4p in the rest of England and Wales to an average £2.60 and £2.53 respectively. Fillet steak, stewing steak and mince are up 2p to 3p a lb.

The average price of whole

leg of lamb in the South-east is

£1.88 a lb and £1.79 in the rest

of England and Wales.

Sainsbury's sirloin steak is

down 40p a lb to £3.68, bone

in leg of pork down 24p to

98p. Dewhurst whole leg of

home-produced lamb £1.48,

and whole shoulder 89p.

Safeway braising steak is

£1.78 a lb, beef boneless chuck

joint £1.72, and pork spare rib

chops 99p a lb. Tesco sirloin

steak is £2.99 a lb and boneless

rolled shoulder of pork 98p.

There is an abundance of

cabbage, with Celtic at 14p-

26p a lb, and Savoy and

January King at 18p-30p a lb.

Brussels sprouts are 15p-30p,

but English calabrese, at 55p-

95p a lb, will finish soon

though there are supplies from

Spain and Italy.

Root vegetables in good

supply are onions from many

sources at 14p-30p a lb and

parsnips at 20p-40p. There

are also numerous varieties of

potatoes from 9-35p a lb, and

excellent mushrooms at be-

tween 40-75p a ½lb.

Dutch Chinese leaves at

35p-65p are top quality,

Dutch chicory, at 90p-£1.10 a

lb is new in the shops and

there are home-grown round

lettuces at 20p-30p a head and

French and Spanish icebergs

between 60p and £1 each.

Dutch hothouse tomatoes

are finishing soon but there

are Spanish outdoor tomatoes

at 30-55p a lb.

Apples from many sources

cost from 30p-60p a lb. Eng-

lish, Dutch and French con-

ference pears are between 25p

and 45p and comice pears are

40p-55p.

The selection of citrus fruit

available includes oranges at

8p-25p each, grapefruit 20p-

45p and Jaffa sweets 25p-

40p. The easy peel satsumas

are 35-55p a lb. Kiwi fruit at

14p-24p each are cheaper than

they were last year.

French chestnuts are now

available at 90p to £1.25 a lb,

and there are also Italian

filberts and Brazil nuts at 75p

to £1 a lb, and American pecan

at £1.20 to £1.40 a lb.

£60,000 for dismissed union men

Five union officials who were dismissed over a pay claim today won a total of more than £60,000 at an industrial tribunal in an out-of-court settlement with the Prison Officers' Association.

The five men were dismissed in February by the union's executive committee after they walked out in protest at delays in referring their pay claim to arbitration.

The compensation deal was agreed overnight by lawyers for both sides. It came after the London tribunal had heard more than two days of evidence disclosing deep divisions in the union between full-time and elected officials.

The settlement includes an undertaking by the men not to communicate any further with POA members or to give details of the deal.

It is understood that at least one of the men will receive more than £30,000, and the others more than the tribunal award minimum of £8,500.

The five are: Peter Rushworth, former deputy general secretary; Philip Hornsby, assistant secretary; Jim Kay, Malcolm Thomas and Jim Jeffrey. They were claiming that they had been either unfairly or constructively dismissed.

Mr Rushworth said yesterday: "We have won. Our actions have been totally vindicated. The POA came here saying we would get nothing then threw the towel in on the third day."

Mr John Bartell, chairman of the POA, said the hearing could have cost the union up to £500,000 if it had run the full course, including appeals.

He said: "We have taken this step in the interests of the membership."

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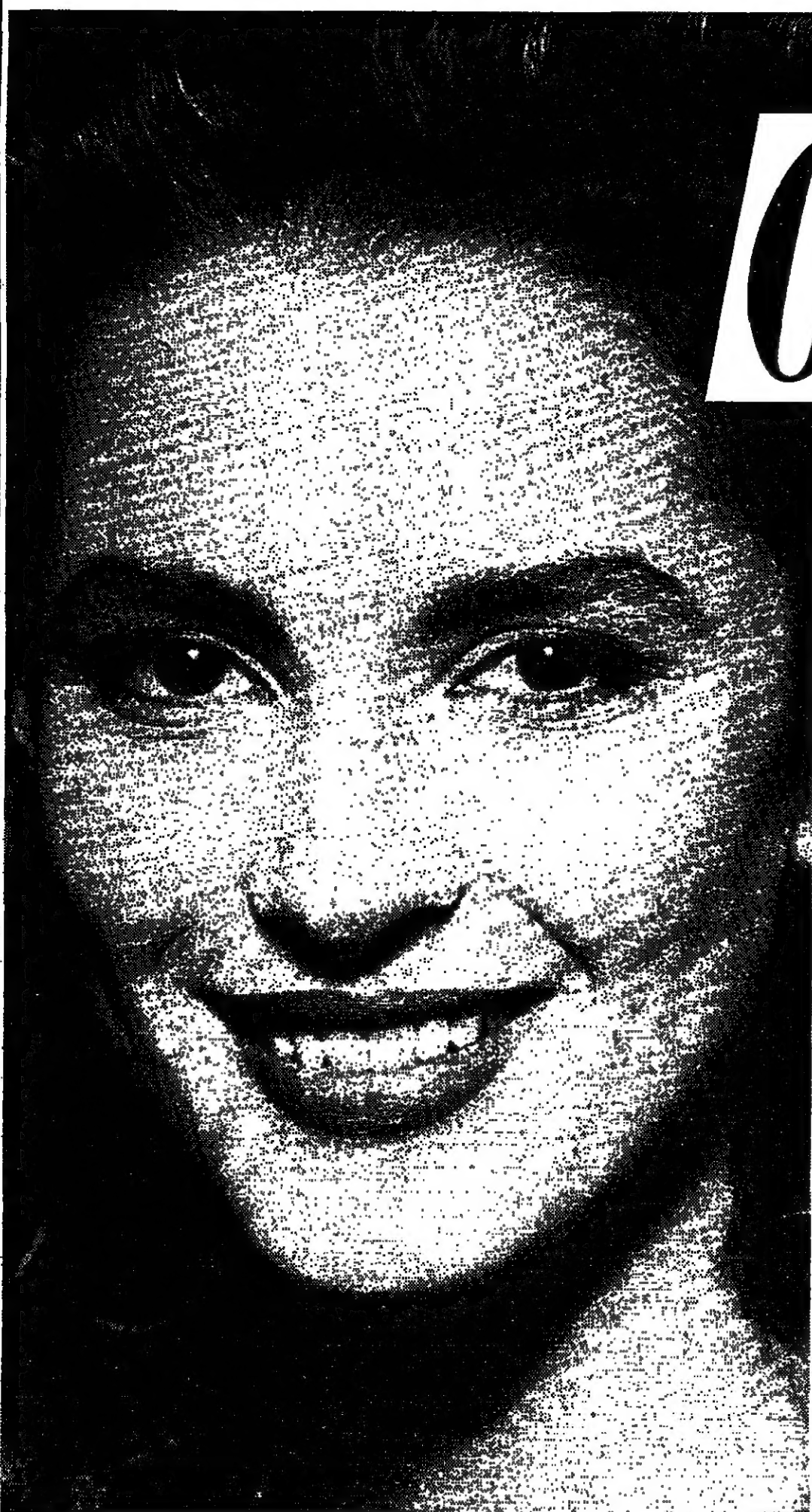
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SHE MEETS A
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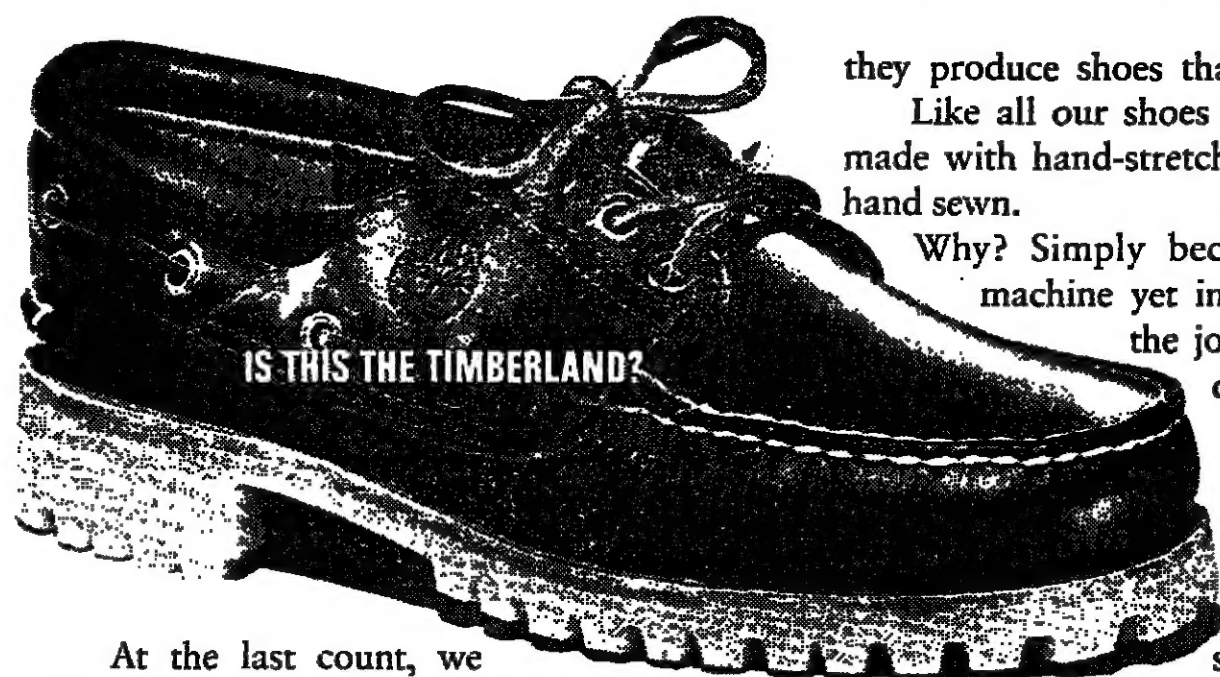
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WHY DON'T WE COPY OUR IMITATORS?



At the last count, we totted up twenty different shoes that bear an uncanny resemblance to the Timberland Range Rover shown here. (Have you spotted it yet? Not easy is it?)

And while some people hold that imitation is a form of flattery, we thought it was time we gently put the boot in.

Yes, there are companies who make rugged walking shoes like ours. But those companies don't make them the way we do at the famous Timberland workshops in the town of Hampton, New Hampshire, U.S.A.

Let's start with the finish. When a tannery meets our rather stringent demands, we reward the supplier by buying up its entire output so it's exclusive to us.

At this stage, we dye the leathers right the way through so the colour can't be scuffed off. Our imitators scrape by without doing this. Then we impregnate the leathers with silicone oils to keep water at bay and stop the leather going dry. Are you listening in Korea?

The hallmark of every Timberland shoe is the wrap-around construction of the uppers involving only one piece of leather. It's an old Red Indian trick we borrowed from the original moccasin design.

Not surprisingly, this Red Indian influence has not spread as far as the shoe manufacturers of Spain and Portugal.

The single piece of leather is stretched and moulded round special lasts to ensure that the uppers do not crack with time.

Apart from lengthening the life of the shoes it also has the effect of breaking them in before they are worn.

Some of the people who manufacture boots and shoes that look like ours are so worried about the price crippling people,

they produce shoes that do it instead.

Like all our shoes the Range Rover is made with hand-stretched leather. It's also hand sewn.

Why? Simply because there isn't a machine yet invented that can do the job better. (They can do it faster. They can do it cheaper. But they certainly can't do it better.)

Each shoe is sewn with high-strength nylon thread using a pearl stitch that will not come undone even if the thread is cut or breaks.

The seams are then waxed to increase their resistance to water. And then, utilising one of Timberland's many patented processes, our shoemakers permanently bond the uppers to the hard-wearing sole.

(If there is a word for 'bond' in Italian our imitators obviously don't know it.)

Even the ordinary parts of a Timberland shoe are extraordinary.

Our rawhide laces are self-oiling for extra-flexibility and longer life.

The eyelets are made of solid brass for the simple reason that brass doesn't rust. Unfettered by these traditional concerns for high standards, our imitators paint their eyelets to look like brass. It's yet another way they don't come up to scratch.

Again, the tongues in our boots are kept in place by no fewer than four rows of nylon stitching. We could get away with three rows. Or even two. But pretty soon you'd be giving Timberland the boot instead of the companies who imitate us.

Inside our boots we stop being concerned with water getting in and become preoccupied with stopping warmth getting out. After all, on cold days 80% of your body heat may leave via the top of your head yet it's always your feet that go numb.

So many of our boots are insulated, first with Thinsulate in the tongue, shaft and quarter, and then Ensolite around the toes. Those of you tempted to buy cheaper boots,

might like to know that our Super Pac Boot has been tested successfully at -40°F.

Indeed, so confident are we that our boots can protect your feet in the worst conditions known to man, that we sponsor the Iditarod, generally acknowledged to be the last great race on earth.

This 1049 mile dog-sled race is from Anchorage to Nome in the frozen Alaskan wilderness. You could certainly get your fingers burnt wearing the wrong boots there.

You have probably gauged by now that Hampton, U.S.A. is a rather conservative town. Which is true.

Although slowly, sometimes begrudgingly, our craftsmen have had to admit to a sneaking admiration for new-fangled ways of doing things.

Like our Ultra Light range. Shoes with soles that are so light one pair is lighter than most single casual shoes.

Or the Gore-Tex linings which stop water entering while at the same time allowing the foot to breathe.

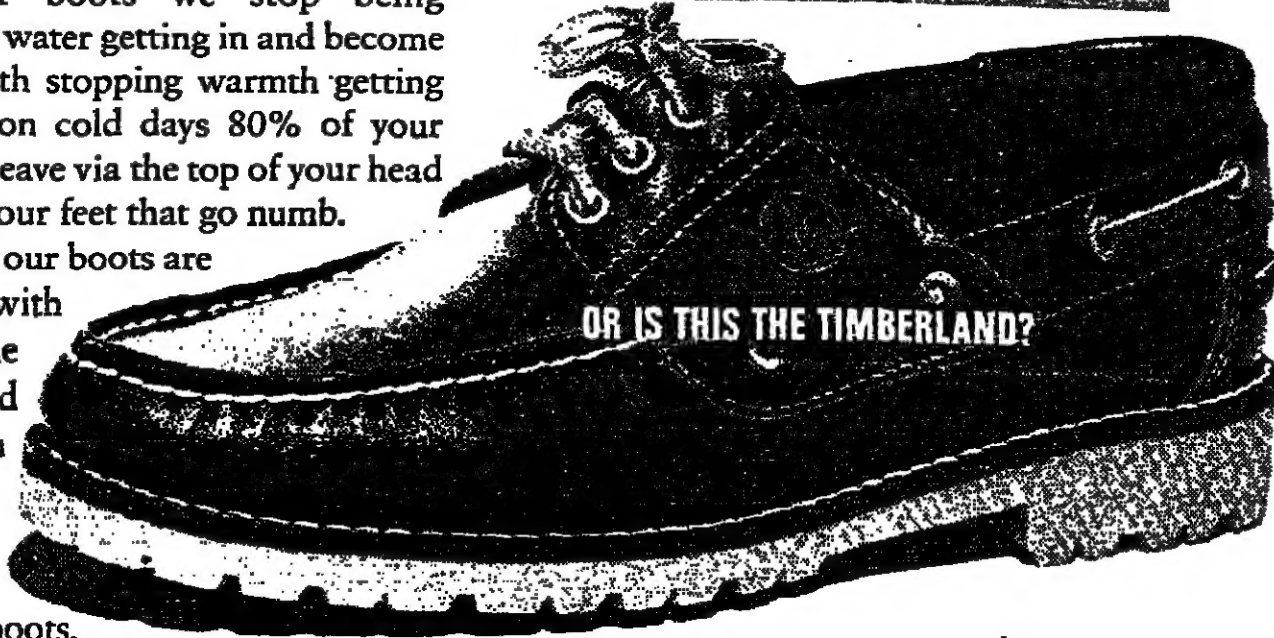
Why, some of our older men even balk at the glove leather linings and soft cushioning we pamper people with nowadays.

However, they comfort themselves with the knowledge that no matter how hard they try, our imitators will never be fortunate enough to be in our shoes.

Unless, of course, they do what everyone else does these days.

Buy a pair themselves. Timberland Shoes and Boots, 23 Pembridge Square, London W2. Telephone: 01-727 2519.

Timberland



South Africa bans white racist group after massacre of blacks



From Michael Horanby Johannesburg

The South African Government yesterday banned a small, far-right, white racist organization in response to Tuesday's massacre of six blacks in a Pretoria street by a white former police constable.

Barend Hendrik Strydom, aged 23, who was arrested after the shooting incident, appeared in the Pretoria Magistrate's Court earlier in the day on six charges of murder and 17 of attempted murder.

The magistrate, Mr P. J. Johnson, ordered that Strydom undergo 28 days' observation in a mental hospital and postponed the hearing of the case until December 19 to allow time for a full

investigation into his psychiatric condition.

Dr W. J. Pieterse, a district physician, who examined Strydom immediately after his arrest, told the court that although there was not enough evidence to say he is a psychopath, his behaviour would fit that of a psychopathic personality.

Asked if he wished to say anything, Strydom, declared that he was "completely of sound mind at the present time and had always been so".

He said that he would have nothing to do with the court "until a white Boer state is formed".

He also said that the Government "should arrest communists like Archbishop Desmond Tutu

and Denis Worrall (former South African Ambassador to London and now an independent opposition politician)".

The demand for the creation in South Africa of an all-white Boer state - Boer being the old Dutch name for those whites of Dutch, French and German origin now known as Afrikaners - is common to several ultra-right-wing groups.

Among them is the Blanke Bevrydingsbeweging (BBB), or White Liberation Movement, the small group which was banned yesterday by Mr Adriaan Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, in a proclamation in the *Government Gazette*.

The BBB consists of a group of right-wing fanatical extremists who

favour an active form of violence to carry racism to its extreme. They also aim to foster an attitude of anti-Semitism among whites," Mr Vlok said.

There is no evidence that Strydom was a member of the BBB, a relatively little-known and inactive group, whereas he is alleged to have belonged at one time to the much larger and more influential Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) of Mr Eugene Terre Blanche.

Pretoria, which has banned more than 20 black anti-apartheid organizations so far this year, clearly felt the need after Tuesday's shootings to make an example of a white right-wing group. In picking on the BBB, however, the Minister

has created the impression that he is afraid to tackle the AWB.

The BBB is led by Professor Johannes Schabert, a former head of the department of bio-chemistry at the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg, who believes that South Africa leads a global struggle against "non-white races who are destroying this planet".

There is believed to be considerable sympathy for the AWB in the lower ranks of the police force. Strydom resigned from the force last February while under investigation by a departmental disciplinary committee for improper conduct. Among the charges against him was that he had posed for a photograph brandishing a knife and holding

the head of a black man decapitated in a road accident under his arm.

He had apparently intended to have the picture framed above the words "ANC Beware" (a reference to the banned African National Congress).

Three acquitted: The Supreme Court in Pretoria yesterday acquitted three of 19 black South African activists after a marathon treason trial lasting 37 months (Reuter reports).

Judge K. Van Dijkhorst gave the verdicts on Mr Oupa Hlomola, Mr Patrick Baleka and Mr Jeff Moseleane during a lengthy judgment on accused members of the UDF and other black opposition groups.

Kohl's retreat over arms eases path to a Nato summit

In a move which eases the path toward a Nato summit in London next spring, West Germany yesterday backed away from earlier opposition to the modernization of short-range nuclear weapons in Europe, saying that upgraded weapons were vital to Western defences.

In a speech to the North Atlantic Assembly in Hamburg, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said the West must use every opportunity to improve East-West relations in the new era, but he added that Nato must guard against the "denial of nuclearization of Europe".

A third zero option eliminating all nuclear weapons in Europe "does not even come into consideration for me," Herr Kohl said.

This remark will be welcomed in London because Mrs Thatcher and Herr Kohl have clashed over the issue in the past.

Herr Kohl, who made an "ice-breaking" trip to Moscow last month, returned to Bonn this week from Washington where he became the first Western leader to meet President-elect Bush.

Diplomats here say a watershed in East-West relations could be approaching, marked both by Mr Bush's entry into the White House and by Mr Gorbachev's unexpected

foray to America and Europe next month.

The fear among German European neighbours, however, is that Soviet retrenchment in the new era, with loosening of Soviet control over Eastern Europe and backs in troop levels in Soviet bloc, could encourage a corresponding reduction in the US presence in Western Europe. This in turn could encourage West Germany to loosen their ties with Nato and the EEC and seek rapprochement with East Germany in a "neutralized" Central Europe.

But yesterday senior West German officials dismissed such fears. They said Bonn was attracted to Gorbachev's idea of a "common European home," West Germany was firmly rooted in Western democracies.

The short-range nuclear weapons issue, which involves around plans to place the Lance missile, has devolved Nato since the signing of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty, which moved all shorter-range nuclear weapons from Europe.

But German officials now accept that the "zero" for which Moscow is pressing would leave the West vulnerable to a surprise Soviet attack, which would leave the West vulnerable to a surprise Soviet attack, which would leave the West vulnerable to a surprise Soviet attack.

advantage as well as its strategic missiles.

In the past Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, has resisted short-range modernization. But sources said he agreed to an upgrading of nuclear weapons provided this was part of a Nato "comprehensive strategy" embracing conventional arms reductions.

Herr Kohl said a comprehensive Nato strategy, which has been in the pipeline for well over a year, could emerge by the spring. A Nato summit has been suggested in London to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the founding of Nato. However sources in Bonn said Germany would combine agreement to a Lance update with a demand for the reduction or even abolition of nuclear armaments.

Bonn has previously resisted broaching the short-range nuclear issue until after the next West German election in 1990.

Yesterday Herr Manfred Womer, the Nato Secretary-General and former German Defence Minister, also speaking in Hamburg, said the West was ready to co-operate with Mr Gorbachev, provided Moscow understood that this did not mean a breathing space in which to increase its military strength.

Reagan bids a fond farewell to favourite ally



Firm friends: Mr and Mrs Reagan greet Mrs Thatcher and Mr Denis Thatcher before Wednesday's White House banquet.

Thatcher urges positive line on PLO

From Philip Webster Washington

Mrs Thatcher yesterday urged the American Administration to take a positive attitude to the newly-adopted position on the Palestine Liberation Organization over the state of Israel.

She stressed the need to respond to the PLO more when she said: "I believe we need to make strenuous efforts to get negotiations in that area".

Earlier, in a series of interviews on American television, Mrs Thatcher stressed that the fine print of the PLO

declaration needed to be looked at carefully.

The American Government has so far taken a sceptical view of the apparent change of position by the PLO. But Mrs Thatcher made clear in the interviews and her later talks with Mr George Bush, the President-elect, that the time had come to give a new boost to the Middle East peace process.

She said that if the Palestinians had accepted UN Resolution 242, providing for the recognition of Israel in return for its departure from the occupied territories, that was a modest but significant

step forward. "It is not the only step they need to take - there are others as well, but if it is correct that they have done that, that would be a modest step forward and something we can build on," she said.

JERUSALEM: The Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Shimon Peres said yesterday Palestinian leaders had distorted and destroyed a UN resolution implying recognition of Israel when they voted to endorse it at a meeting this week. He said they had changed the meaning of the resolution by linking it to a demand for Palestinian self-determination.

From Philip Webster Washington

President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher rang down the curtain on a nostalgia-laden day by dancing together at the White House state banquet in her honour.

As the two leaders "two-stepped" Mrs Nancy Reagan and Mr Denis Thatcher luxuriated in *Holly Dolly*. Earlier the couples had danced together to *Shall We Dance*.

The banquet, attended by scores of showbusiness and political figures, was the climax to the lavish farewell display put on by Mr Reagan for the Prime Minister. During the banquet he toasted her, saying: "As I prepare to leave this office in January I take considerable satisfaction in the knowledge that Margaret Thatcher will reside at No 10 Downing Street."

Michael Feinstein, the prize-winning pianist, played a selection of Gershwin and Cole Porter songs dedicated to Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan with the encore entitled *The Song Is Over But The Melody Lingers On*. The menu included: Baby lobster Belle Vue, Caviar yoghurt sauce, curried croissants, roasted saddle of veal Perigordine and chestnut Marquise.

Mrs Thatcher, wearing a cerise pink and gold two-piece gown, expressed delight over the handbag presented to her earlier by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, joking that she would use it to hide state secrets. She told an American television audience: "In my office they always say: 'If you can't find anything or something really needs to be kept secret - put it in the Prime Minister's handbag'."

WORLD ROUNDUP

Arab bid to ree Red Cross man

Sidon (Reuters) - Palestinian fighters said yesterday that they would search Sidon and nearby refugee camps for Mr Peter Winkler, right, a Swiss member of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr Winkler, aged 32, was seized at gunpoint by three masked men who chased and intercepted his car near Ain al-Hilweh refugee camp on the outskirts of Sidon, 25 miles south of Beirut.

In Beirut the Red Cross appealed for Mr Winkler's release. Officials of several Palestinian guerrilla groups held an emergency meeting in Sidon to discuss the kidnapping, which they said was an attempt to force the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine to agree to take immediate measures to secure his release.



Afghans defect to US

New York (AP) - Two Afghans who accompanied the Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Mr Mohammad Hassan Sharif, on his mission to the United States last week have defected, United States officials said yesterday. An official at the US Mission to Afghanistan said the State Department confirmed that two Afghan diplomats did not return to Kabul, but were not discussing their whereabouts.

A diplomat expelled by the US has expelled a senior US diplomat from Baghdad, having extensive contacts with the country's Kurdish minority. The Washington Post said yesterday. The repatriated diplomat as Mr Haywood Rankin, chief of the political section of the US Embassy in Baghdad.

Soviet refusenik dies

Mrs Isolda Tufeld, Soviet refusenik who was released after pressure by the US Government, died in Jerusalem of a brain tumour yesterday (Andrew McEwen writes).

After a 10-year campaign to leave Moscow with her husband, Vladimir Tufeld, who was 57, was given a visa to travel to the United States for specialized medical treatment in December last year. Following further pressure Mr Tufeld was freed to leave in May on a short-term visa to visit her. He did not return and was with his wife when she died.

Sri Lanka bombing

Colombo - 76 people were killed and about 75 injured yesterday when a bomb exploded at a meeting in Colombo of Mr Ossie Eysenbacher, an opposition candidate in Sri Lanka's potential election campaign (Vijitha Yapa writes). Opposition violence, which police believe is the work of the JVP (People's Liberation Front), included the shooting of a head engineer of the port of Colombo, who was driving to work in defiance of a strike call by the Marxist-inspired radical nationalist group. In Kurunegala, police shot at a band of anti-government protesters, killing one.

Frach image dented

Paris - The carefully cultivated image of the French as masters of extra-marital conquests suffered a setback yesterday with the publication of an opinion poll showing that less than 91 per cent of those asked considered fidelity necessary for a marriage - though the poll added that average French marriage was getting shorter.

East European leaders under fire as ethnic conflicts flare

Kremlin heading towards crisis after Estonia veto

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union was yesterday heading towards a constitutional crisis after the Estonian parliament's decision to institute a republican veto over laws passed by the central legislature in Moscow.

Tass yesterday announced that the country's top state authority, the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet, would examine the Estonian decision at a forthcoming meeting. The amendment to the Estonian Constitution, passed by the strongly nationalist Baltic state's legislature, permitting the right of veto was deemed to be unconstitutional.

Estonian representatives would be invited to the Praesidium meeting, which will presumably be scheduled before the national Supreme Soviet meets in Moscow on November 29 to adopt constitutional changes and a new electoral law.

Parliamentary commissions were meanwhile instructed to submit a "detailed conclusion" to the Praesidium on the issue "which affects the basic principles of the edification and unity of the Soviet Socialist Federation". The Estonian

parliament had been called into emergency session on Wednesday to discuss Moscow's planned changes to the 1977 Soviet Constitution.

More than 900,000 letters from members of the 1.5 million-strong population had been sent to parliament protesting against the changes which they maintained would strengthen Moscow's power over the 15 republics.

In addition to modifying the Estonian Constitution, in an unprecedented challenge to Moscow's authority, the Estonian assembly also adopted a "declaration of sovereignty" in a clear rebuff to President Gorbachev, who only on Tuesday had solemnly said that nationalist "extremism" would not be tolerated.

The Kremlin reaction yesterday, in addition to signalling Moscow's deep concern, was apparently aimed at forestalling a similar vote by the assembly in the neighbouring state of Lithuania.

But Lithuanian sources said that unlike their Estonian colleagues there would be no vote on the proposed constitutional amendment which

would be the subject of a debate today.

The current crisis is the most serious after the southern republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan clashed in the spring over the future of the Armenian-claimed Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Both republics used different articles of the Constitution to stake their claim to Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Armenian problem has still not been resolved, and the Armenian majority in Nagorno-Karabakh this week began a new strike to press their demands for the enclave to be transferred to Armenian jurisdiction.

But behind the constitutional issue is a potentially serious political challenge to Mr Gorbachev who left Moscow yesterday on his way to India. The Estonian decision, which shakes the very foundations on which Soviet power is based, could easily be followed not only by the parliaments in the other Baltic states, but in other strongly nationalist republics as well, such as Armenia and Georgia.

Tension rises in Kosovo

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

For the first time since the Albanian riots in the troubled Kosovo region seven years ago, thousands of Albanians took to the streets yesterday to demonstrate their support for the Albanian leaders whose resignations Serbia has for some time been demanding.

More than 3,000 miners from the Trepa mines, some 18 miles away, marched on the provincial capital, Pristina. On their way, they shrugged off police attempts to stop them and broke through a thin police cordon.

They carried Yugoslav, as well as Albanian flags, and banners hailing the Yugoslav Communist Party and Tito. They also displayed banners supporting the Albanian leaders and shouted "We will protect our officials".

Their march was intended to counter the demands of the Serbian leadership for the resignation of top Albanian party officials whom the Kosovo Serbians accuse of supporting Albanian nationalist designs to force them out of the province.

The miners were joined by several thousand Albanians in the capital.

The miners' march was timed to coincide with a meeting of the Kosovo Communist Party's Politburo, convened after several postponements, to decide the leadership's resignation.

The Albanian leaders have been resisting pressure from Serbia whose leader, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, has been calling for a purge of the Albanian party leadership in order to satisfy the demands of the Serbian population of the region.

The main targets of the Serbian attacks have been the party's president, Miss Kacusa Jassari, and Mr Azem Vlassi, a member of the provincial Politburo.

Both have let it be known that they would not resign under pressure from the street. But while the Albanian demonstrators marched on the capital Miss Jassari relinquished her post as president but retains her seat in the Politburo.

The Serbian members of the Kosovo Politburo resigned some time ago in order to clear the way for the resignations of the Albanian officials and leave the body almost entirely in the hands of Albanians. That would precipitate their downfall, it was argued.

At the heart of the dispute is the Serbian campaign to impose full control over the

region where ethnic Albanians represent an overwhelming majority and where the Serbs now make up less than 10 per cent of the population.

They complain of harassment and are threatening to stage a collective exodus from the province.

In order to avoid this, Mr Milosevic wants to remove the Albanian leadership and replace them with more subservient officials.

This strategy, however, has further alienated the Albanians. As pressure from Serbia is being stepped up, tension is mounting among the Albanians who are resisting the proposed constitutional changes that would greatly limit the self-rule they have been enjoying.

In order to show that such a policy enjoys Serbian support, which it indeed does, Mr Milosevic intends to stage a mass rally in Belgrade tomorrow at which the Serbs will air their grievances over alleged discrimination in Kosovo.

Yesterday's meeting complicates the situation further.

The Albanian demonstration has increased the danger of new ethnic conflict in the region, where the two nations now totally ignore the existence of one another.

Sanctuary in France

Cairo dolphins given home

Cairo (Reuters) - The two performing dolphins abandoned in a hotel swimming pool beside the Nile six months ago will be flown to France next week, a British marine wildlife specialist said yesterday.

Mr Doug Cartledge said he had received permission from the Government for the dolphins, Lino and Nimo, to leave.

The male dolphins, abandoned by their Swiss owner, Mr Bruno Lienhardt, after the Meridien Hotel cancelled his show in May, will be flown to Antibes, France on Wednesday and housed in an aquarium park, Mr Cartledge said.

An Air France cargo plane flying from Djibouti would pick up the dolphins and take them to their new home. "I'm very happy now. It's the first time I have smiled in ages," said Mr Cartledge, who arrived two weeks ago after one of the mammals stopped eating and the hotel appealed for overseas help.

Mr Cartledge, who had said the dolphins might die if they remained in Egypt, said that he was now working to rebuild the strength of Nimo who had become weakened after suffering from an abdominal infection.

Mr Edouard Speck, the general manager of the Meridien, said the dolphins had cost the hotel more than \$60,000 (£35,000) in maintenance and lost revenue.

Hotel guests were unable to use the main pool and had to make do with a smaller one during the dolphins' residence there.

Mr Lienhardt, who disappeared after his last show, was not available for comment yesterday.

JAKARTA: A school of

dolphins nudged and guided two sailors, shipwrecked in rough seas off the coast of Indonesia, through the night to the safety of a small island (Reuters reports).

The men were able to raise the alarm and rescue teams plucked another nine of the ship's crew from the sea, a spokesman for the ship's owners, the Indonesian state oil company Pertamina, said yesterday.

Two crewmen of the 545-tonne tanker, *Elipha III*, which sank on Monday in the Indian Ocean off Java, are missing and one was found dead, the spokesman said.

The two sailors guided by the dolphins reached a small island off the Indonesian wildlife reserve at Ujung Kalon on Tuesday morning.

Both of the survivors were wearing lifejackets during their ordeal.

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It's designed to be on its very best behaviour even when the British climate is at its very worst.

An achievement that is not due to some miraculous breakthrough in tyre technology or suspension.

But rather, the inspired design and construction of the car as a whole.

Take its weight distribution. The text books all agree that the better you can balance the load on the front and rear axles, the better the handling.

So BMW have given the 535i a perfect 50:50 weight ratio.

Likewise, a rigid body shell keeps all four wheels glued more firmly to the road.

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To keep that windscreen clear of water the wipers cover a massive 84% of the glass area.

And, better still they adjust their pressure as you adjust your speed.

As you might expect on a car that's capable of a hypothetical 144mph, the 535i is fitted with ABS.

What may be more surprising are the ellipsoid headlights and foglights.

They direct more light where it's needed (on

the road) and less where it isn't (in the eyes of oncoming drivers).

It's another example of BMW making life safer. Even for those who don't drive a BMW.

As it stood, the BMW 535i could tackle just about anything the elements cared to throw at it.

But for a BMW driver, "just about" is not good enough. So there's one more item that some people might possibly decide to fit.

Something that could deal with one of Britain's rarest climatic conditions.

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Maloney adds
election strategy
save his Government

Visit by minister
helps to heal rift
with Malaysia



Japan in the dock
over log imports

Mulroney adopts new election strategy to save his Government

From Christopher Thomas, Montreal

With the Canadian elections just three days away, the Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Mulroney, has adopted a new, fiercely combative strategy to save his four-year-old Government from defeat.

So far, his campaign has been notable only for its lifelessness. With victory seemingly assured, he opened his re-election bid on October 1 with low-key, low-risk tactics that turned out to be disastrous miscalculations.

He stormed into a suburban Montreal shopping mall two days ago clearly determined to test his new approach on several hundred cheering French Canadians.

Speaking into a crackling microphone in a tiny, packed hall, while a bitter wind lashed the faces of eager crowds forced to stand outside, he assailed the opponents of his Liberal Party as Luddites. People in the crowd looked at one another, wondering what a Luddite was.

"Yes, the Liberals have become Canada's Luddites," he persisted. "Anti-investment, anti-trade, anti-business, anti-American and anti-progress." The little hall shook with cheers.

It is the Prime Minister's

singular misfortune that he tends to come across as a bit phoney, especially on television. Political opponents cruelly call him "Ivan Brian", although they do not mean it literally. It is just that he exaggerates wildly and is much given to over-spicing his speeches with superlatives. Opinion polls show that people think he has been a competent Prime Minister; but they do not trust him.

The Liberals and the smaller New Democratic Party could hardly believe their luck when they observed Mr. Mulroney's initially tepid campaign style. The decisive turning point in his fortunes came in two television debates three weeks ago, when he was crushed by Mr. John Turner, the Liberal leader.

"I happen to believe you have sold us out," Mr. Turner said in the one line that is played over and over again on television. He was referring to the US-Canada free trade agreement which Mr. Mulroney's Government negotiated with the Reagan Administration. The pact, held up by the Canadian Senate, is the dominant issue of the election campaign.

Until now, Mr. Mulroney

has defended the accord with statistics and vague generalizations, while opponents pounded away at the stirring image of the mighty neighbour storming at will across Canada's border, dominating the country's industries and way of life.

The Prime Minister was totally unprepared for such a powerfully emotional, nationalistic assault on the agreement, which is strongly supported by Canadian and American businessmen. But he has at last found his voice, saving his campaign from almost certain death by boredom. It remains to be seen whether his fighting comeback is too late.

He hurriedly visited the little French-speaking town of St. Jerome in Quebec province the other day. This was a good place to try out his new themes of nationhood, family, unity and tolerance. Refusing to be drawn directly into weary defences of the trade pact, he launched instead into a long list of economic achievements in his first term of office.

Mr. Mulroney appears to have decided to leave the trade pact well alone for the rest of the campaign.

Riding into a royal sunset



Action Chief, a 17-year-old stallion, nuzzling his rider, Superintendent Bert Hutchings, at a ceremony to mark their joint retirement in Perth, Australia. The Queen suggested during her tour of the country earlier this year that Mr. Hutchings be allowed to keep the horse.

Fears of unrest over Sudan's pact with rebels

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sudan yesterday entered a tense and unpredictable period which could either end its civil war or lead to a wider conflict with new battle lines.

The extraordinary terms of a peace agreement signed in Addis Ababa between the southern rebels and the largest party in the Sudanese coalition could make or break the Government of Mr. Sadiq al-Mahdi, the Prime Minister.

Both diplomatic and Sudanese expert sources felt the situation was poised on a knife-edge. Although the agreement was seen as a hopeful development, there was a danger of riots provoked by the National Islamic Front, the fundamentalist party within the coalition, possibly leading to a military coup. But there was also a risk that Libya, which under the terms of the agreement will lose much of its influence in Sudan, might intervene by giving military support to extreme fundamentalists.

"It is an extremely delicate situation and the next few days will be crucial," said Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Dirai, a former cabinet minister in the prime minister's Umma party, and a former governor of Darfur province.

Mr. Dirai, who now lives

in London, spoke on the telephone to leaders of the Sudanese Government delegation in Addis Ababa immediately after the agreement was signed after five days of talks.

Only the largest party, the Democratic Unionist Party, was involved in the talks with Colonel John Garang, leader of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, which has fought a five-year civil war to prevent domination of the south by the north.

The outcome will depend on whether the agreement obtains enough support within the coalition. Mr. Mohamed Osman el-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said the Prime Minister had shown "his support of the peace initiatives contained in this agreement".

But the terms of the agreement reverse many of the government's most important policies. They have introduced new Islamic sharia legislation, now before Parliament, which will be abandoned under the new agreement.

In Britain, the Foreign Office welcomed the agreement as "an important step towards peace and reconciliation".

Visit by minister helps to heal rift with Malaysia

From Humphrey Hawksley, Kuala Lumpur

Lord Glenarthur, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, has made a low-key visit to Malaysia this week in the latest stage of diplomatic manoeuvres which have ended six years of bitterness between London and Kuala Lumpur and won British arms manufacturers potential sales worth up to £1.5 billion.

The arms deal marks a shift in British attitude towards its former colony, and Lord Glenarthur was yesterday in Singapore for a regional heads of mission meeting which is assessing Britain's overall policy in South-East Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

For several weeks now, British arms salesmen have been visiting Kuala Lumpur to work out details of the memorandum of understanding which was signed between Mrs. Thatcher and Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister, in London at the end of September.

It is expected that the first contracts will be signed within the next three months. In the following years dozens of British military technicians, advisers and instructors will be sent to Malaysia in a programme which some commentators have said will end the policy of withdrawing all British military forces east of Suez.

The plan is to modernize the Malaysian armed forces and restructure them to meet an external threat instead of the now-eradicated internal threat by communist insurgents.

The potential enemies in geo-political terms are seen as China, the Soviet Union and Vietnam. Malaysia also has continuing territorial disputes with the Philippines. Its 144,000-strong armed forces will become a more significant

element in the 17-year-old Five Power Defence Arrangement — a regional pact between Britain, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia, which at present takes the leading role.

On the negotiating table are reported to be up to six new Vickers submarines, Rapier ground-to-air missiles, Lynx anti-submarine helicopters and 12 British Aerospace Tornado multi-role combat aircraft. There are also provisions for joint-manufacturing projects and a transfer of sophisticated military technology to Malaysia. It is likely to be the biggest British arms deal since the sale of 120 Tornados to Saudi Arabia.

Defence analysts say the deal has also broken new ground in international arms sales to developing countries because much of the payment will be made with Malaysian commodities such as tin, rubber and palm oil.

"They modernize the military without a huge increase in their defence budget," said one analyst, adding that Britain's competitors, mainly the United States and France, lost out partly because they were unable to offer such a complex package.



Lord Glenarthur: Reviewing policy in South-East Asia.

Rainforest preservation

Japan in the dock over log imports

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

The Worldwide Fund for Nature yesterday put Japan in the dock for resuming log imports from Brazil earlier this month. The conservationist organization says the move by Japan, by far the world's largest log importer, exploits a loophole in Brazil's soon to be imposed ban on log exports and undermines international efforts to protect fast disappearing tropical forests.

The Fund fears that the revived trade with Brazil will undercut trade with countries like Malaysia — Japan's main supplier of tropical logs — Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, forcing them to lower their prices.

Conservationists say this will speed up deforestation in South-East Asia. It also threatens efforts by the 42-member International Tropical Timber Organization, which has just met in Yokohama, to ensure that wood producers reap more of the benefits from their natural resource by processing the timber themselves.

Forestry experts reckon that

less than one per cent of all tropical forests are being managed in a way that sustains their productivity.

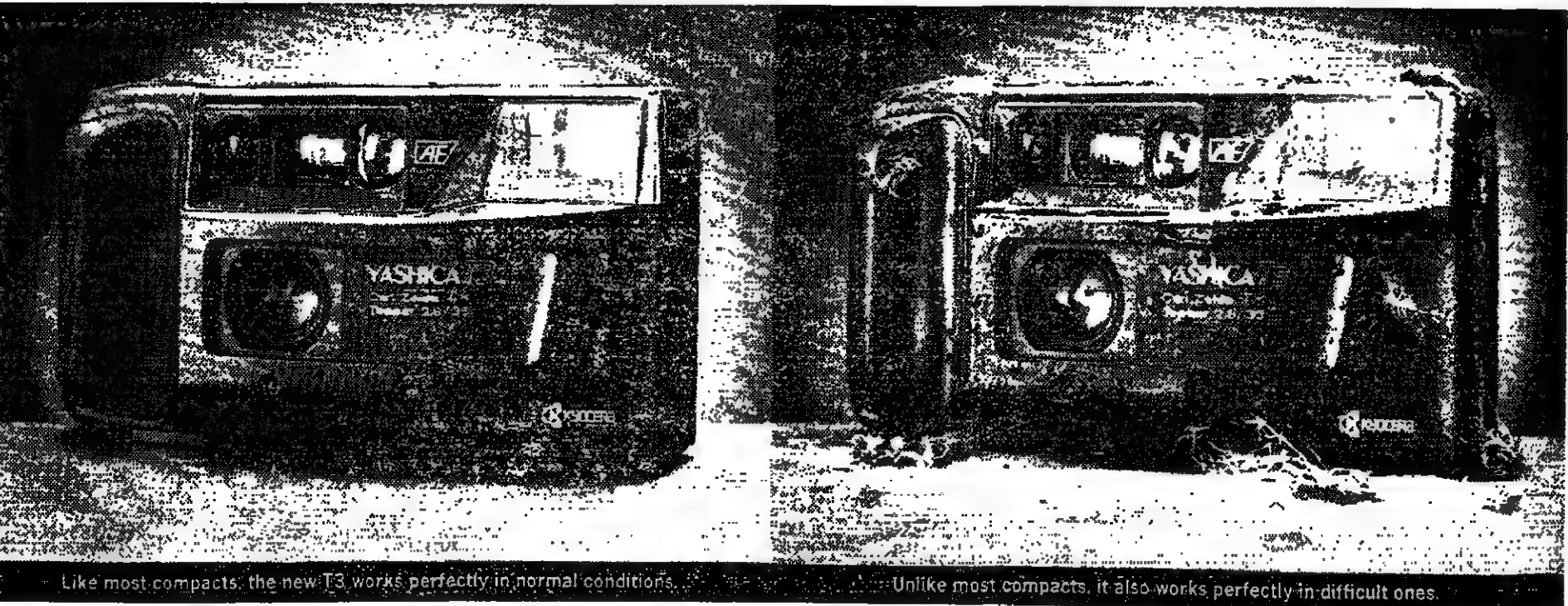
Mr. Adam Markham, the Fund's campaign officer, told foreign reporters in Tokyo yesterday: "A sudden influx of logs to Japan from Brazil could seriously jeopardize attempts to improve forest management and conservation policies in South-East Asia and could also open the floodgates of Japanese trade in Amazonian timber."

"Countries like Malaysia will be unable to afford to modify forestry practices if their prices are undercut. This latest trade agreement between Japan and Brazil does just that."

A 1979 ban by Brazil on log exports was partially revoked in 1986.

But President Sarney recently earned applause from conservationists when he reaffirmed Brazil's intention to prevent deforestation in the Amazon by banning exports and cutting subsidies to cattle ranching.

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Bhutto seeks to woo Pakistan coalition partners

From Anatol Lieve, Lahore

The impressive victory by the Pakistan People's Party in the country's general election, against considerable odds, has reconfirmed its status as the only genuinely national political organization.

Its right-wing rivals in the Islamic Democratic Alliance, and its Muslim League component, have been reduced to a core in the Punjab with a few appendages in North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan.

However, the PPP failed to gain an absolute majority of seats or votes, and the balance is held by small parties and independent MPs, whom it must seek to win over to its manifesto programme for national reconstruction and re-unification. The party's economic policy is designed to embrace both social democracy and encourage private enterprise in a mixed economy. The first clause of the manifesto chapter on industrialization contains only one sentence: "There will be no nationalization of industries."

But this section also contains several dinosaurs from the 1970s — notably the emphasis on building up heavy industry.

The proposed measures would be extremely expensive. One Karachi magazine has calculated that the PPP's five-year programme would cost \$11.47 billion (£6.3 billion) — 25 times the US aid package for the period and much larger than the other parties' commitments.

Pakistani and international economic commentators say that, once in power, the PPP would probably think again. Nonetheless, observers are afraid that the combination of a residual populist ideology, raised public expectations, and a weak governmental team could lead a People's

Party administration to fritter away state resources on bribes to various sections of society, meanwhile driving states even further into the red.

The perceived weakness of Miss Bhutto's team, especially in finance, is a cause of concern to many observers. To find someone of real quality, she might have to go to the Pakistani community abroad, for example to Mr Shahid Javed Burki of the World Bank. But there would then be the problem of getting such experts into Parliament.

The People's Party, on the strength of its manifesto commitments, would not launch an attack on the Islamic establishment.

But many Muslim clerics could expect to lose some of the privileges they enjoyed under General Zia's rule.

On foreign policy, Miss Bhutto aimed much of her pre-poll propaganda at placating Washington. She made conciliatory noises towards India, but balanced these with some chauvinist rhetoric during her campaign.

Domestically, a great deal now hangs on the provincial assembly polls tomorrow, especially those in Punjab. If the Alliance succeeds in carrying these and retaining the provincial government with more than 60 per cent of Pakistan's population, it could perhaps prevent the formation of a PPP government in Islamabad, or at least make life very difficult for it.

The key to the formation of a new government in Islamabad is held by President Ishaq Khan, the caretaker in the wake of General Zia's death, and the smaller parties and independents.

Miss Bhutto promised during the campaign that the PPP would, in any event, seek a coalition with its former allies in the Movement for



Women's day: As Miss Benazir Bhutto took a strong lead in the election count, Karachi voters watch a woman television presenter giving the latest figures.

the Restoration of Democracy. While this was an expedient move to try to avoid the formation of a coalition of jealous elements against a PPP government, smaller parties within the Movement found it extremely difficult to work with the much larger People's Party in opposition, and it seems doubtful that they would find it much easier in government. So minority groups might be more tempted to enter a coalition with the Alliance, where they would have more of a say.

A leading actor among these smaller parties is likely to be the Mohajir Qumi Movement, representing the Urdu-speaking Mohajir community of Sind, with 13 parliamentary seats. It could go with either the PPP or the Alliance.

The People's Party has clearly profited greatly from

Sindhi national pride in the Sindhi Bhuttos. This may alienate the MQM, for Sindhis and Mohajirs have clashed bloodily in the recent past. On the other hand, the PPP's complete victory over the

● A great deal hangs on tomorrow's provincial polls ●

forces of extreme Sindhi nationalism may be a sign of better relations ahead.

Other MPs and smaller groups, however, are likely to respond purely to offers of state patronage from either side — and so indeed may many members of the two parties.

This is where presidential powers are so crucial. Under General Zia's amendment to the 1973 Constitution, the President has the unfettered

right to choose the Prime Minister, irrespective of which is the largest party in Parliament.

The Prime Minister then has 60 days to choose the government — which PPP supporters fear might mean subverting their MPs by means of bribes. They do not trust President Ishaq Khan, and their conviction that rigging is taking place has not improved relations.

But the President appeared on Wednesday to agree with some lawyers close to the PPP when he said that determining the Prime Minister might take at least a week, and that first Parliament should elect a speaker.

The lawyers believe that this process would automatically establish the existence of a parliamentary majority, of which the President would then have to take notice.

Voters in much of Pakistan may only have had a choice between rival groups of landlords, but many clearly tilted towards the side which they felt historically had offered them a somewhat greater say in their own affairs.

The heritage of the martial law years under General Zia have received a severe rebuff, and the requirement for voters to produce identity cards — effectively depriving many poor people of the right to vote — may even have contributed to PPP support among others angered by the move.

The election may not have been perfect, but it has been generally freer, fairer and above all more peaceful than almost any other in the Muslim world in recent years.

A party led by a woman has won the most votes. It may be true that Miss Bhutto has made much use of traditional

images of the aggrieved, avenging daughter. But her success does mark progress.

The poll has seen the general rejection of doctrinaire religious politics as preached by the Alliance. The main party in the Islamic grouping, the Jamaat Islami, has been reduced to a shadow, chiefly by the Mohajirs in Sind. The largest religious party is now the Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Islam, with seven seats.

Its clerics belong to the Sunni Deoband theological school, a local tradition — unlike the Wahabi faith of the Jamaat, which has its origins in Saudi Arabia — and emphasizes a more pluralist and liberal kind of religion.

Pakistanis have not rejected some role for Islam in politics, but a majority have spurned what they see as its misuse by fanatics and self-seekers.

Leading article, page 17

Two jailed over rail disaster in Russia

Moscow (Reuters) — Two Soviet railwaymen have been jailed for 12 years for negligence which resulted in the deaths of 106 people in a collision between two trains in August last year, Tass said.

A court in Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia had established the cause of the accident as the failure of the braking system on a goods train, which rammed into a Moscow-bound passenger train near the town of Kamensk-Skhalskiy.

Nazi acquittal

Bonn (AP) — A former Gestapo chief in Châlons-sur-Marne, north-eastern France, Count Modest Korff, was acquitted of charges involving the deportation of 177 French Jews who died in Auschwitz.

10 pilots die

Moscow (AFP) — Afghan rebels killed 10 Soviet pilots and wounded 20 in a rocket attack on Kabul airport.

Curbs lifted

Suva (Reuters) — Fiji suspended security laws which gave the military and police wide powers, including detention without trial.

Liani divorce

Athens (AFP) — Mrs Dimitra Liani, aged 34, the companion of the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu, has been granted a divorce from her architect husband.

Oldest person

Palatka, Florida (AP) — Mrs Carrie White, a tobacco-chewing woman who is aged 114, has been certified the oldest living person by the Guinness Book of World Records.

Letter from New York

Violence spurred by 'crack' plague

The 1,200 children of New York's Public School 33 have just received a graphic lesson in the perils of drug-buying — their headmaster, Mr Matthew Barnwell, aged 55, was arrested while buying two vials of "crack", the deadly cocaine derivative.

"I work for the Board of Education," Mr Barnwell protested in vain to the arresting officer on 148th Street.

Given that teachers are supposed to be holding the frontline in the war against drugs, the incident outside the South Bronx primary school might have been expected to cause outrage.

But such is people's resignation to the drug plague that many New Yorkers reacted with their trademark shrug, which says "So what else is new?"

Mr Barnwell, it turned out, had a long history of troubles but rules of tenure, the teachers' union and his race made it impossible to sack him.

The case provided another glimpse of the hold that crack now exerts on the city: it is a grip that embraces far more than the poor ghettos and has helped accelerate an indifference to violence that is becoming increasingly noticeable.

A smokeable crystal, crack is ferociously addictive — far more so than any other drug. For \$5 (about £2.70) you can freely buy a short-lived "hit" almost anywhere in New York, often from children barely in their teens. Police-men and judges say they are losing the fight against the drug, and the prisons are overwhelmed.

Crack is wreaking social havoc, particularly in the black and Hispanic inner city areas. Mr Benjamin Ward, the Police Commissioner, insists that while New York is suffering an epidemic, it is not yet out of control. But, he adds, "it appears to me that, right now, the drug lords are on top of the situation".

The statistics are numbing, and they are echoed, although usually in milder form, in other cities. More than half the murders committed so far this year in New York have been linked either to crack or cocaine dealing, according to city officials. Other crimes, from prostitution to robbery, are soaring.

New Yorkers, of course, have a long tradition of killing each other in volumes that boggle British minds. But the trend of violence has jumped alarmingly; the murder rate has risen by more than 10 per cent so far this year compared with 1987, and the tally now stands at more than five homicides a day.

Crack and the craving for it generate something particularly disturbing — an irrational disregard for life. While old-style criminals would shun violence, and the murder of a policeman above all, drug dealers or takers have been responsible for a recent spate of mindless killings, including the cold-blooded murder of three policemen in separate incidents.

Over the past week, citizens have died in circumstances that would in the past have earned headlines. Take the mother, aged 20, who was walking home up Columbus Avenue on the Upper West Side, a "yuppie" district of Manhattan, one night last week. A young man approached her, asked her the way, then shot her dead. The incident won no more than a brief mention in *The New York Times*.

A night earlier, a woman was unloading a car in the borough of Queens. A man strolled up and shot her dead. In another recent case, a Queens crack addict confessed to a string of senseless knife attacks in which at least three people died.

For many people, these incidents are creating a growing sense of menace and helplessness in the face of random violence.

The threat can be felt on most journeys through the streets of Manhattan. You can rarely walk far without encountering the burnt-out state that goes with crack. Though shrugged off by many as a fact of life in New York, the sense of menace is part of a phenomenon that is emerging both here and in other big cities — a growing tolerance of violence as part of life.

Closely tied to this is what appears to be a rise in old-fashioned racism. In New York, there have been several racial attacks, including a shooting and beating attack by blacks against two whites on Staten Island last weekend. A symptom of this tension is the recent emergence of a white "skin-head" culture in New York, a movement that apes the "bovyer boys" of 1970s London.

As usual, television is the best barometer of the popular psyche. Judging by the latest trends on the box, the mood of the moment is ugly.

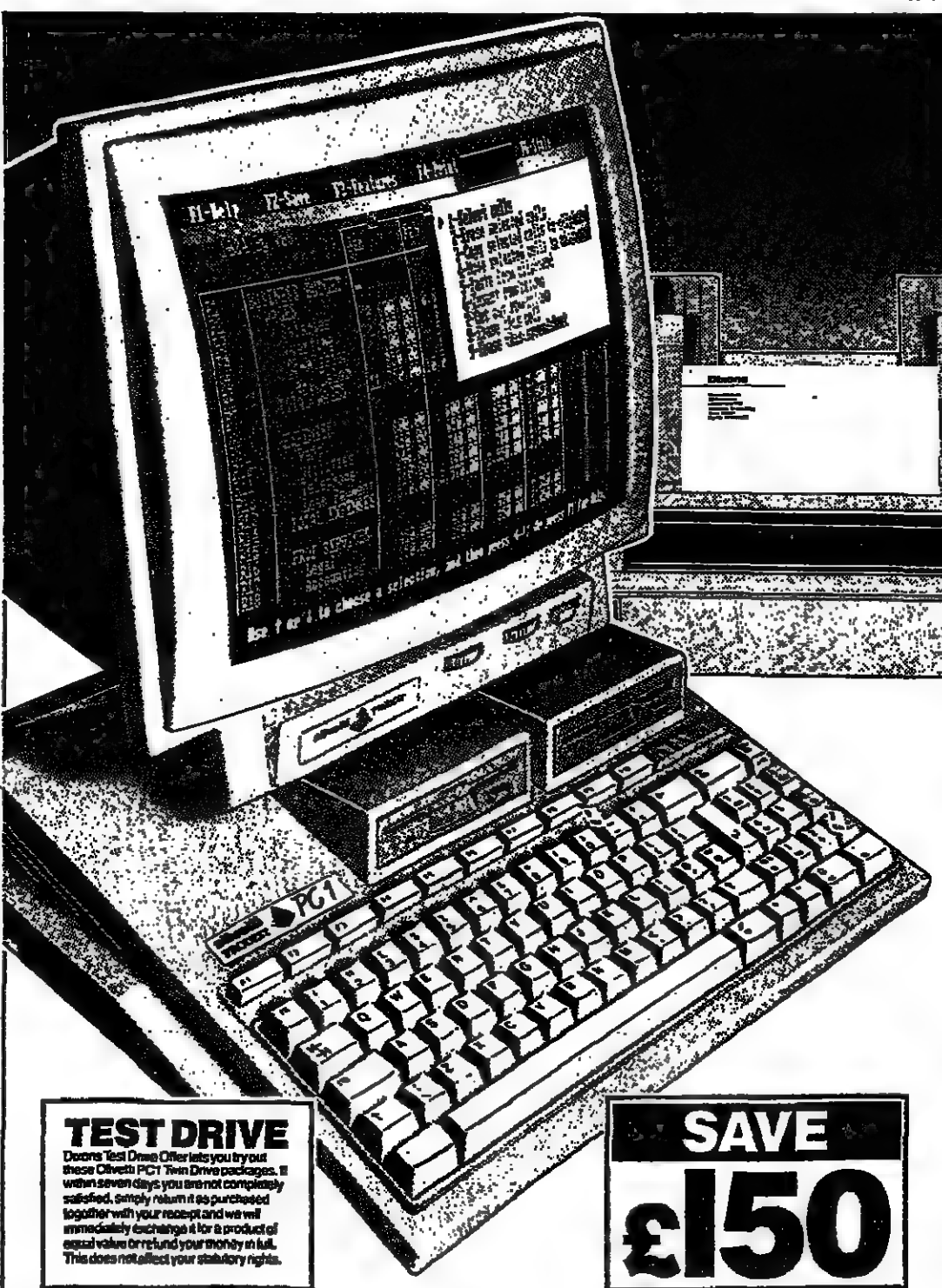
The New York area is leading the country in the new genre of trash television. In these talk show "hosts", such as Mr Mort Downey or Mr Gerald Rivera, provoke their guests in front of a baying studio audience.

The most spectacular results so far were achieved by Mr Rivera last month when his skin-head and black-activist studio guests started brawling during a show on the theme of "teenage hate-mongers". Mr Rivera received a broken nose, but the recorded broadcast was watched last weekend by a record 40 per cent of the viewing public.

Mr Jimmy Breslin, New York's journalist-chronicler, came up this week with a winning idea. "If they want violence on television, then put on the real thing," he said, proposing a quiz show to be hosted by Mr John Gotti, the current boss of the New York Mafia. Losers would suffer appropriately horrible on-camera fates at the hands of Mr Gotti's associates.

Charles Bremner

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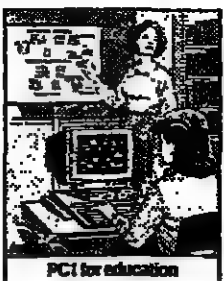
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SPECTRUM

St Paul's: a new vision

Deyan Sudjic
examines the plans
for Paternoster
Square, Britain's
most sensitive
development

After nearly two years of shadow boxing, Arup Associates, architects of the master-plan for the redevelopment of Paternoster Square, around St Paul's Cathedral, have finally revealed their hand. An exhibition of what their proposals for the most emotion-charged development site in London will look like opens in the crypt of St Paul's on Monday. It will show an extensive model of the whole area, drawings and detailed models of individual buildings.

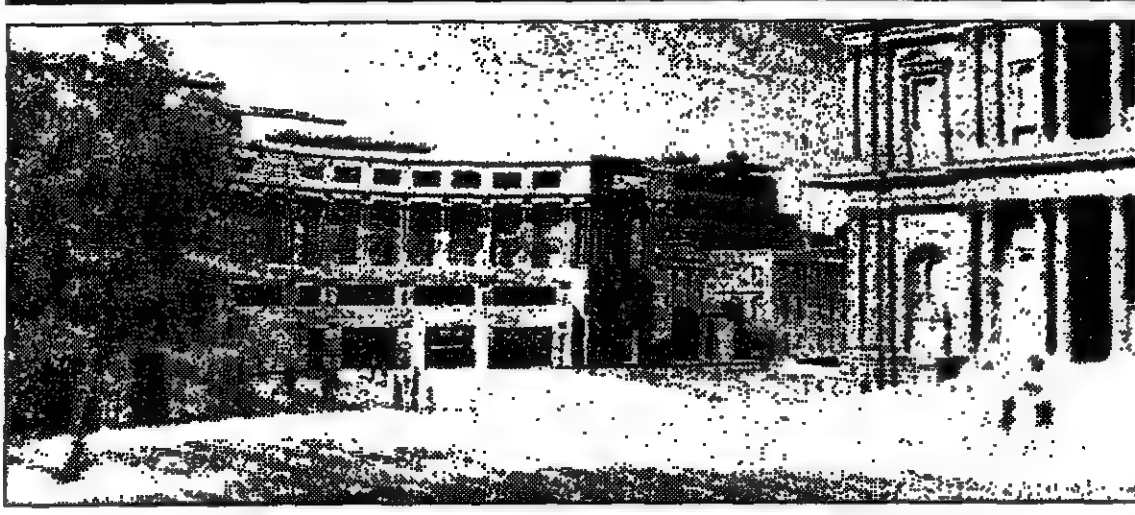
Given that this is the very scheme that the Prince of Wales has missed no opportunity to denounce ever since he had a private view at the beginning of 1987, it is an odd state of affairs that it should have taken so long for the rest of us to get a look at it. All that the public has seen so far are the planners' diagrams, not much more than doodles, that were put on show in the crypt of St Paul's in the spring of 1987.

Britain is ostensibly in possession of a democratic planning system — yet discussion of this important development has been conducted between the Prince and the developers as a long-range bombardment.

Despite the fuss, what Sir Philip Dowson of Arup Associates — the patrician architect behind the scheme, who is best known for his collegiate work at Oxford — is proposing, is less than startling. He divides the site into halves, each with its own distinctive character. To the south would be a mannered looking assembly of public buildings, providing a slightly self-conscious setting for the cathedral. To the north would be a tightly packed mass of office buildings that would pay for the project.

They are drawn up around a network of pedestrian streets and squares. A sweeping glass-roofed arcade full of shops, bars and restaurants would cut across in a long arc from Cheapside to Ludgate Hill, forming the front line between the civic south of the site and the commercial north. The arcade would curve around the cathedral, opening at intervals to provide glimpses of Wren's masterpiece.

South of the arcade, the public buildings would include a museum and an hotel. The offices, no more



Looking ahead: going on display at St Paul's, an artist's view (top) of Paternoster Square and (below) the model

than eight storeys high, would be designed by different architects: Michael Hopkins, working on the Financial Times building, and Richard MacCormack have already been appointed. Their buildings would be half the height of the existing towers, although they would be much more densely packed. The scheme as designed would contain a total of 1.6 million sq ft of space, compared with 850,000 sq ft in the existing Paternoster Square.

The architect most conspicuously missing from the line-up is Richard

Rogers, who took part in the original competition in February 1987 to find an architect to design the development, and was under the impression that he had shared the victory with Dowson and was joint master-planner for the project. Rogers produced the most memorable image in the competition. He suggested linking the Underground station at St Paul's with the shopping part of the development. To do it, he proposed creating an enormous glass-roofed space above the station, a kind of underground Pompidou centre. But Rogers was seen as too controversial a choice

and was offered a more minor role in the project, which he turned down.

Dowson has designed the set-pieces in a kind of illusionistic version of mannerism. His hotel, which would form a semi-circular counterpart to the west front of the cathedral, looks uncomfortably like Rome's giant masonry typewriter, the Victor Emmanuel monument, with its arcade of paired columns, and its massive rusticated base.

Dowson hedges his bets. He still wants to be a Modernist at heart, but he also wants to respond to the context he is working in. Look at the

facade of the hotel through half-closed eyes and you see what appears to be a classical building. Look harder, and you see that it is all done by the power of suggestion. The giant, paired columns are no more than a screen that stands clear of the main building and are not strictly classical at all. But the most extraordinary thing about Paternoster, the idea that makes it worth arguing about, is not the shape of the new development at all, but the fact that it is taken for granted that almost 1 million sq ft of offices, many no more than 20 years old, and seen as the height of architectural achievement in their day, should be demolished.

Paternoster in its present incarnation was planned by Lord Holford in 1956. It is presented as the embodiment of every evil of modern development. In fact, it already has a large number of thriving shops.

It is made up not of one desolate plaza, but of two squares that have a subtle relationship with each other, one open and formal, the other intimate and enclosed. And its buildings are not concrete as they are often described, but faced in costly Portland stone and slate.

There are things wrong with Holford's plan, but to dismiss it out of hand we run the risk of taking the same cavalier view of the past as the more simple-minded Modernists of the 1950s, and producing solutions that will be just as short-lived. At the core of the problem is respect. But the solution is not as simple as the Prince of Wales, with his image of a Rugby scrum around St Paul's, shutting it out from view, implies. To create a cordon sanitaire around the dome would be disastrous. What it really needs is to become part of the fabric of the city, so that you can come on it by surprise, and find it revealed by other buildings. Holford understood that, while Dowson shies away from it.

The other vital issue is the planning one — that is to say, what kind of place is the precinct of St Paul's going to be? It is never going to be the romantic world that Canaletto painted from the Thames, and which the Prince aches for. Nobody, not even John Simpson with his toy town Classical plan for the site, endorsed by the Prince, is going to recreate the world that filled the churchyard with publishers and printers. Nor will architecture bring back the religious faith expressed by Wren's building, which made it the vital heart of a bustling city.

Dowson's design, with its stage-set quality, with his artfully composed crescents and semicircles, spells out the essential unreality of the place with perhaps too much clarity.

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Under offer: a licence to fib



CRAIG BROWN

Regency-style: Couple of pillars against the front wall. Craftsman-built: Falling to pieces. Within easy reach of city centre: In a slum. Easily managed garden: Concrete forecourt. Superb leisure complex: Abandoned cars in garden. Imposing: Grim. Exciting new development: National Car Park. Unspoilt: Not worth spoiling.

"This is a really lovely, lovely examination," says Mr. Chris Slime. "And I'm sure you're going to be very happy with it."

Debreit has recently apologized for making the mistake of listing Cardinal Hume as a married man. Meanwhile, their rivals, Debreit, claim proudly to have got their own entries "more right than wrong", though they admit that "owing to a computer error" the Rev Ian Paisley is described as a "regular panellist on BBC TV's popular Blankety Blank". Mr Norman Tebbit's hobby is "light crochet work", while Sir Geoffrey Howe lists his clubs as "Playboy International" and his hobbies "Setting the town alight", and Sir Alfred Sherman is credited with "a gonist sense of humour". Mr Jeffrey Archer is described as "a writer" and Mr Nicholas Ridley is reportedly furious that his interests are listed as "the Environment". But the greatest outcry has come from leading Tories, who are dismayed by the description of Mr Edward Heath as "past leader of the Conservatives".

"We shall be taking steps to make sure this dreadful calumny is not repeated," says a senior party member.

Mr Tony Newton, the Trade and Industry Minister, this week advised a conference of estate agents against introducing a written examination for entrants to the profession.

Yesterday, Mr Newton's remarks were described as "suitable for conversion" by Mr Christopher "Chris" Slime, of the Highly Desirable Association of Unspoilt Estate Agents. The Association already has an examination, the success of which, he says, can be measured by its 100 per cent pass rate. All entrants were held to be adept at the Association's Extensively Refurbished English, a variation on Standard English currently employed by estate agents nationwide.

Mr Newton said that the necessary qualities of estate agents were efficiency, energy, an ability to deal sympathetically with the public, and a knowledge of a rapidly changing market. These were important qualities, but they could not be assessed by a written examination.

A typical estate agent's examination paper would include the following questions:

1 Translate the following description from Jane Eyre:

"In wandering round the shattered walls and through the devastated interior, I gathered evidence that the calamity was not of late occurrence. Winter snows, I thought, had drifted through that void arch, winter rains beaten in at those hollow casements. For amidst the drenched piles of rubbish, spring had cherished vegetation — grass and weed grew here and there between the stones and fallen rafters."

ANSWER: "The walls open on to a luxury open-plan interior which boasts many period features. Every room benefits from en suite shower facilities with easy access to the countryside. The living room boasts a mature garden and Jacuzzi. With sunshine roof and many original fittings. Full of unique character. Suitable for conversion or use as a granny flat."

2 (Mathematics): Rose Cottage contains two bedrooms, three cupboards, a coal shed and an empty Corn Flakes packet. How many bedrooms does it boast?

ANSWER: Six, maybe seven.

3 Translate these well-known phrases back into Standard English:

Well proportioned: Square, with square windows. Award-winning: Hideous.

Serving a secrets obsession

Is Washington
pandering to
British wishes by
denying access
to sensitive
documents?

The author John Costello believes he has discovered an alarming phenomenon within the National Archives building in Washington DC. The United States seems to be going to exceptional lengths to accommodate the British Government's obsession with secrecy.

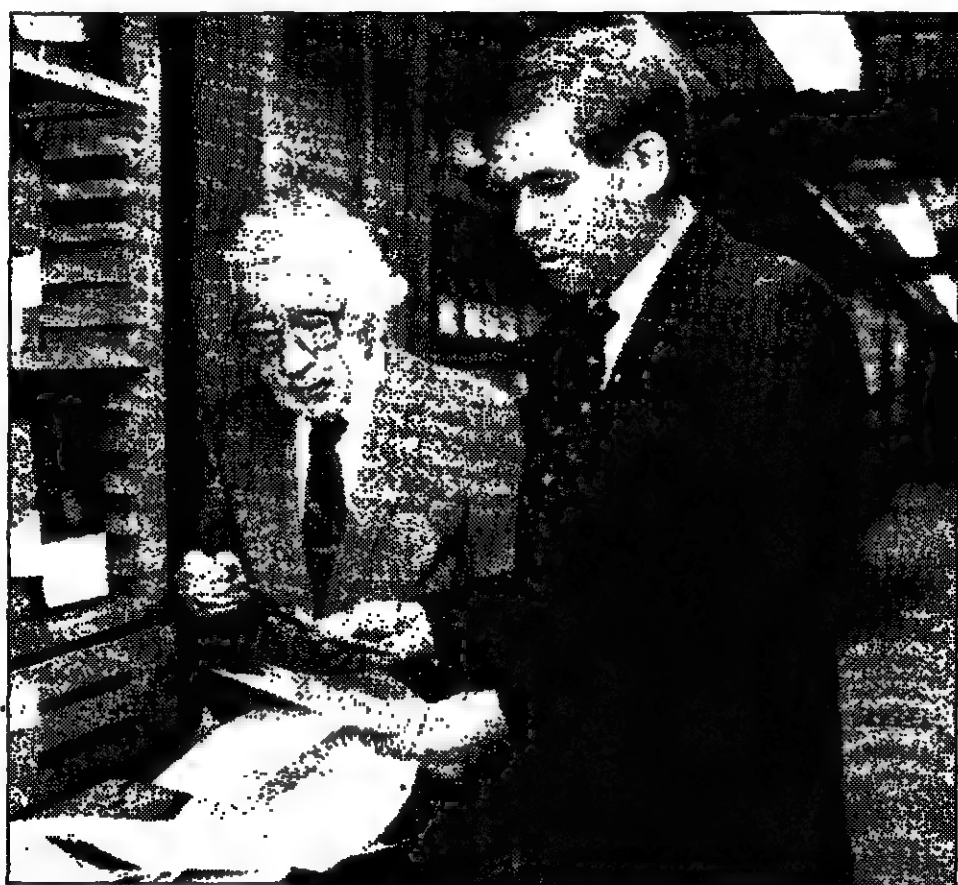
Countless buff-coloured cards, officially known as "withdrawal notices", poke out of the tops of grey boxes of files, declaring in the tortured language of bureaucracy, that certain sensitive papers have been removed from public scrutiny at the request of "GBR" — Great Britain. Historians such as Costello are worried. A primary information source is drying up.

The author criss-crossed the Atlantic over a four-year period to research his new book, *Mask of Treachery: The First Documented Dossier on Blunt, M15 and Soviet Subversion* (Collins, £15).

At first a cool breeze of openness blew through the National Archives. But gradually an increasing number of withdrawal notices appeared. Obviously, Costello says, the Americans are clamping down on information that might embarrass or offend Britain.

Indeed, he thinks it would be impossible today to do detailed research for a book such as *Mask of Treachery*. And the arrival of George Bush at the White House is likely to lead to more restraint, since he is a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, with a built-in distaste for revealing anything.

"No intelligence officer likes revealing information because, as a D-notice issued on my book in September advised me, any bit of information can be used by the other side as a piece in the grand jigsaw puzzle. Bush will be much more aware of this than any other president. And



Hidden history: archivist John E. Taylor (left) and John Costello at US National Archives

he will have enormous power to issue orders governing the release of information."

Already, there are signs that the broad access to information provided under the Freedom of Information Act is being curtailed. "The mood is changing. It is getting more difficult. It can now take three years to get documents. A number of former intelligence officers who were writing their memoirs told me it has been made clear to them that it will be much more difficult now to get their books cleared for publication."

Documents obtained by Costello before the clampdown show how British intelligence knew far more in the 1920s about Soviet penetration of the West's secrets than has been admitted. He has produced a new theory: that there was a "grandfather" super-mole, whose activities over many years protected the chief Soviet operatives who targeted their efforts on Cambridge.

"Between 1927 and 1951 not one of the major Soviet

people was picked up, even though the American records show they knew the identity of the Soviet intelligence agent who was the prime Cambridge recruiter. This leads us to the question of whether the person in charge of counter-intelligence was criminally negligent or a passive mole for the Russians," Costello says.

He adds: "The documentation I discovered provides a prima facie case that Guy Liddell, who rose to become deputy director general of M15 before he was retired in the aftermath of the Burgess-Maclean defection in 1951, was a passive Soviet mole — the grandfather mole of them all. He personally recruited Anthony Blunt into M15."

Such are the promising gems of history that now appear to be slipping into the recesses of official obscurity, presumably at the behest of the British Government. "I am sure the phones are ringing between London and Washington," Costello says.

He notes that all British documents should have been removed automatically from the archives, under a 1917 agreement not to reveal each other's secrets. But often the weeding process has been casual. It is only recently that the Americans have been "gutting" new material.

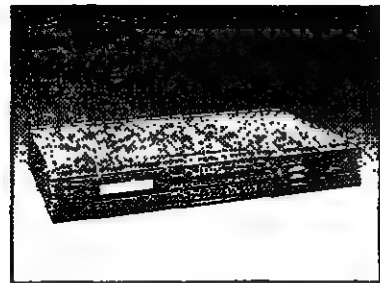
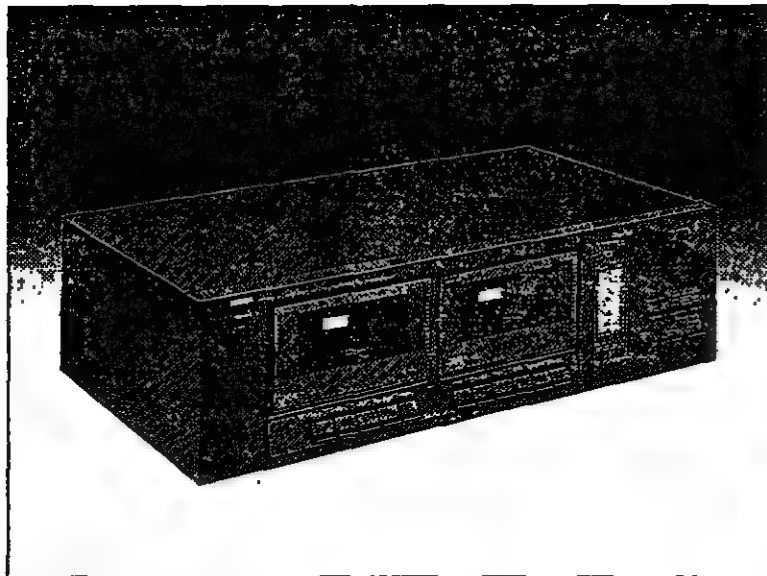
"On the last batch of files that I examined — they were 1945 records — there were 18 withdrawal notices in the space of 30 pages, all dated 1987," Costello says. "Half the material had been withdrawn. The Americans are obviously going through everything twice, and if they find anything that might cause offence to the British Government — out comes the document and in goes the card. It is a very sad development."

Christopher Thomas

Jan Morgan's estate agency ("As safe as whose houses", Spectrum, Wednesday, November 16) is called Grosvenor International, not Grosvenor Estates.

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At Laskys, naturally.



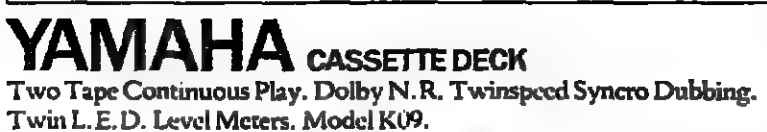
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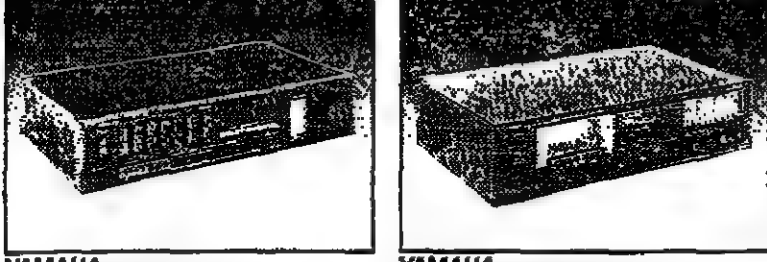
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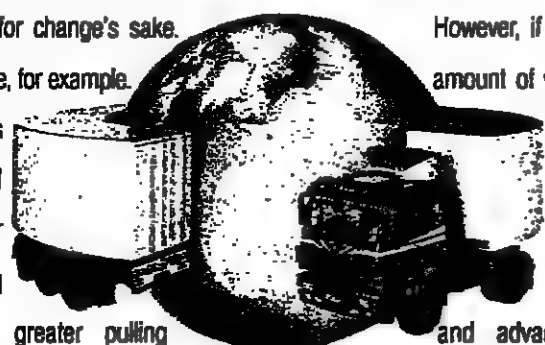
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TIMES DIARY

SHEILA GUNN

Those peers who optimistically hope to have an easy couple of months before the "big" Bills are sent up from the Commons, are in for a shock. Their leader, Lord Bestard, has grabbed a batch of heavy and complex measures from Ministers, to start in the upper House and keep his lads and lasses busy over the winter months.

Peers are expected to get their teeth into the post-Cleveland inquiry child care reforms as soon as decently possible after the Queen's Speech, and to pass it on to MPs' early next year. Lord Young's mergers and competition policy measure will be launched in the Lords. They are also expected to have the first crack at the Fair Employment Bill, imposing stringent penalties on firms in Northern Ireland which discriminate against Roman Catholics or Protestants.

However, one measure ruled out, I'm told, is the new Equal Opportunities Bill. Although it qualifies for a start in the Lords on the grounds that it is not a political hot potato, ministers thought it bad form to start a Bill against sex discrimination in a House which practices blatant inequality of the sexes. Except for a handful of old Scottish titles and war leaders' titles, hereditary peerages descend through the "heirs male" only.

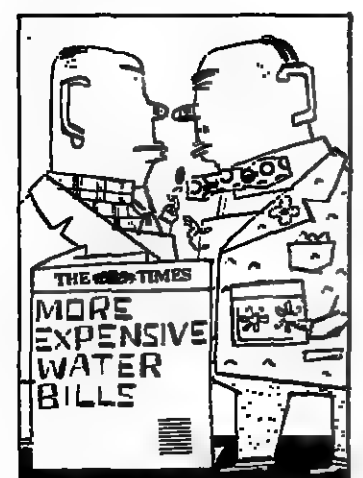
Peers tell me "the Queen is not amused" when the traditional early November State Opening of Parliament is postponed to the end of the month because the previous session runs over. "She doesn't like a cold coach," they report. Next Tuesday she will have no such complaint. For the first time, she will travel to Westminster to deliver her speech in a centrally-heated coach, with electrically-operated windows, courtesy of the Austrians. To mark the bicentennial celebrations they have made her an exact replica of the Irish state coach, complete with modern amenities.

Peers found an appropriate way of paying their respects to the hard-pressed Environment Minister, Lord Cailthness, as the session ended. To his pleasure, they rushed through the third reading and "Bill do now pass" procedures at the tail-end of work on the mammoth Housing Bill, so that the rising "green" peer was released from the despatch box by early evening. It was his 40th birthday.

Gestures of goodwill are not confined to the Lords. One of the first visitors to the Edinburgh bedside of Shadow Chancellor John Smith, after his heart attack, was novelist Jeffrey Archer, who was on a speaking tour, attempting to sell Thatcherism to the Scots. Judging by the Govan by-election result, however, the Conservatives still have a lot of work to do.

The spectre of women bishops one day taking their place in the upper House does not worry the Government's business managers. With accommodation at a premium, it might be thought necessary to provide female incumbents with their own robing room. Not so. "One would assume women bishops will be as saintly as their male colleagues. In which case why can't they share the same changing room?" quipped one Whip.

BARRY FANTONI



Among fond reminiscences in his latest book *A History of the House of Lords* (published by Collins), Lord Longford describes his humiliation at the hands of the Wilson Cabinet when, as Leader of the House, he bravely raised the issue of reform. His ideas were on the lines of a two-level Lords, with some members having speaking rights and others, far fewer, having voting rights. A scheme urged on him strongly during his weekend golf rounds at Rye with Henry Burrows, a chief official of the House.

Poor Longford recalls: "I was laughed to scorn. Harold Wilson disposed of our item with the words, 'I can imagine nothing quite so divisive as an attempt to reform the House of Lords. There was cordial agreement. My angry protests were not taken too seriously.'"

Edwina Currie is having little luck in getting her message across to smoking colleagues. At a recent ministerial meeting on crime prevention, she took great exception to John Butcher's insistence on puffing away at a big cigar. In the end she flounced out in disgust. When she was well clear of the room the Education Minister stubbed out the offending weed.

Defence Secretary George Younger is being spoken of as the next leader of the Lords. Sir Geoffrey Howe still shows little enthusiasm to move to the upper House unless he can take over the Woolpack as well. But the comparative youthfulness and increasing popularity of James Mackay, rocketed into the headlines by his battle with the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland, rules that out. Viscount Younger of Leckie, now in ailing health, is 82 next Monday. So Younger junior will one day have to decide whether to renounce his hereditary title to stay in the Commons. As MP for Ayr, his majority is a spare 182 over Labour.

"The Ministry of Agriculture", Norman Tebbit once observed, "looks after farmers. The Foreign Office looks after foreigners."

Mr Tebbit's linguistic formulation was characteristically forthright. It also expressed a very widely held view that the Foreign Office (or, to give it its full and accurate title, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office) consistently acts according to its own institutional views, if necessary in contradiction to the views of the government of the day.

The conviction that the FCO does behave in this fashion lies behind the recommendation frequently made — most recently and eloquently by David Hart on this page two weeks ago — that the Prime Minister should have an independent advisory body along the lines of the US National Security Council.

Sir Geoffrey Howe immediately (and uncharacteristically waspishly) sprang to the defence of his department in his letter to *The Times*. There is, however, much evidence against the Foreign Secretary's view of the civil servants who are supposed to work for him.

There is pragmatic evidence: nobody who has studied the subject doubts that for years

Patrick Cosgrave argues that it is time to reform the Foreign Office

A too-exclusive club

before the 1982 war British diplomats consistently encouraged Argentine governments to believe that Britain would be relieved to be rid of the incubus of the Falkland Islands, and would do no more than grumble if annexation by Argentina was achieved by force. No matter that this was in direct contradiction to the stated policy of successive British governments.

"In my experience," observed Roy Hattersley (once Minister of State at the FCO) "... the Foreign Office finds it difficult to believe that it can be wrong". That is precisely the deadly judgement to be laid against its denials.

Now, we all know (even if we have only learned it from *Yes, Minister*), that civil servants frequently seek to frustrate the intentions of their political masters that is, so to speak, part of the game of politics. But the evidence in regard to the FCO is much more devastating than

that concerning any other department of state. Peter Jay, who was a Treasury civil servant, economics editor of *The Times* and ambassador in Washington, put it like this:

"In my experience it is not true that a home civil servant will carry his doubts about ministerial policy to the point of saying: 'It is my solemn duty as a citizen to ensure that the Minister's policy is not fulfilled, and that mine is fulfilled, whether or not the Minister can be induced to agree with it.'"

Mr Jay went on to say of the FCO that: "There is a sincere and idealistic belief that they are the custodians of the fundamental truths of British foreign policy, and that the politicians who come and go are among the nuisances they have to deal with in their lives."

Nobody who reported Mrs Thatcher's attempts to renegotiate Britain's budgetary contributions to the EEC between 1979

and 1980 could doubt the truth of this judgement. FCO officials (doubtless sincere and idealistic) consistently advised not only the British, but the continental press that the Prime Minister was about to give in, or settle for a fudge. This news was eagerly welcomed by other heads of government, and, in consequence, relations between states were first strained and then damaged.

It is important to stress that a civil servant who is convinced that the government he serves is wrong should resign. It can never be his business to act against that government.

I have no objection to Mr Hart's idea of a national security staff, but the priority should be reform of the FCO itself. After all, it costs some £200 million a year, and it seems extravagant, even outsize, to pay for a separate organization because the FCO is not doing its job.

The first step is to change the

method of recruitment to the FCO. At present it recruits separately from the Home Civil Service, and there is, generally, very little movement of staff between it and other departments. The FCO holds its own examinations for putative diplomats and, thereafter, trains them not only in terms of administration but in terms of departmental policy. A civil servant who goes to, say, the Home Office or the Treasury can transfer to another home department with relative ease. He or she is extremely unlikely to be able to transfer to the FCO.

It should also be said that since the FCO almost never has legislation to put before the House of Commons its civil servants have very little experience of parliamentary politics. This, too, breeds exclusivity of intellect.

The second step is to change the way the FCO is administered. The movement of paper

in the Office is designed to ensure that the top mandarins have the last word before a submission to the Foreign Secretary.

In home departments it is common for the relevant secretary of state or minister to have regular tutorials with junior staff, the object being to encourage new thinking. This never happens at the FCO: the culture of the office is entirely against any such activities. The bright young spark has, therefore, little opportunity to have a direct input to the Foreign Secretary, and knows that, if he tries it, he may well damage his career.

The third step is to provide for the Foreign Secretary outside advisers of calibre and seniority, whose base would be in the Office itself. I mean no disrespect to the able young men from outside who have advised Sir Geoffrey Howe; but they have not been comparable in experience or knowledge to the established civil servants.

It may be that we need a version of the National Security Council. But we should also, I believe, start getting value for our annual £200 million.

Patrick Cosgrave is author of *Carrington: a life and a policy* (Dent, 1985).

George Hill

Private water, public concern



Sunset on the Howden reservoir, Upper Derwent Valley, Derbyshire. Will water privatization end the spirit of co-operation which enabled a dozen public bodies to work together to make the Upper Derwent Valley management scheme a conservation award winner?

In September, the judges in the annual conservation awards organized by *The Times* and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors gave a first prize to the Upper Derwent Valley management scheme, in the Peak District. One of the chief factors which led us to make our choice was the remarkable, almost superhuman, spectacle of about a dozen public authorities, representing different interests, working ably in concert to safeguard a complex environment of moorlands and reservoirs, and to ensure that the claims of water supply, agriculture, conservation and recreation all ran in harness together.

The two principal bodies which combined to create this little paradise of co-operation were the Peak National Park Planning Board and the Severn-Trent Water Authority. Now, under the provisions of the water privatization Bill to be published later this month, Severn-Trent is about to become a private company, as are the country's nine other major water authorities. Can the delicate flower of co-operation among so many rival public authorities in Derwent survive the transformation of a principal one of their number into a profit-seeking enterprise obliged to serve the interests of its shareholders?

"We have considerable apprehensions, which have been voiced to the Government," says John Thompson, group leader for planning and recreation on the Peak Planning Board. "But we have enjoyed a good working relationship with all three water boards in our area, and we hope that an agreed management plan like the one we have for the Upper Derwent will be a blueprint for relationships with the successors. Everything depends on the standards and codes of practice written into the Bill."

Concern over the planned radical restructuring of the industry has concentrated on three main issues — the effect of a more intensely commercial regime on authorities' huge land holdings in national parks and areas of natural beauty, the possibility of a giant sell-off of surplus land bringing fat private profits but no public ones, and fears that the pressure to achieve a successful flotation may lead the Government to relax current

anti-pollution standards. Fifteen per cent of the entire area of the Peak National Park is owned by the three water authorities.

"Privatization is not at all a threat to the excellent work that has been going on in the Upper Derwent Valley," says Roderick Paul, chief executive of Severn-Trent. "You've seen what has been achieved there. The personalities involved will be the same, and we've already been active in developing our rivers and reservoirs for recreational use as far as that does not conflict with water supply needs. We are so careful in the rules we apply that sometimes our partners complain we're being over-restrictive."

"But I accept that we have not had to develop the skills required for pleasure-type exploitation. Where there is scope for that, we might franchise it. But it is water supply that comes first, and imposes limits. I see privatization as a positive opportunity, bringing gains for consumers, employees and the wider public."

The purification technologies of the past meant that water boards had to buy wide areas of land surrounding their great

upland reservoirs, so that they could control all that went on there and ban any activity which might pollute the precious supplies. Access to water board holdings, especially in the Lake District, was one of the great causes of the conservation movement in the past, and one which has largely been won.

Now the fear is that since improved purification techniques have made much of that territory surplus to requirements, a colossal sale of heritage land to ruthless exploiters may be in prospect, and public access may once again be threatened. "We understand that the Welsh Water Authority was recently privately considering the sale of much of the land round the Elan Valley reservoirs," says Pam Gilder, who has been making a survey of water authority holdings for the Countryside Commission. "Sales of that kind would not necessarily be disastrous. But we would at least wish to see covenants or management agreements laid down to safeguard conservation and access."

Mr J.E. Jones, chairman of Welsh Water, says that there is

no plan for extensive sales in the Elan Valley, another winner in this year's *Times*/RICS awards. "I shall be very surprised if privatization affects our proud and enviable record of continuing care for the environment. But I shall also be very surprised if we are not able to achieve a proper commercial development of our land assets within the necessary constraints."

Fears of asset-stripping are most acute in the case of water authorities which cover areas of dense population and high land values. The recent Royal Ordnance waste case has left the Government acutely sensitive to the need to avoid sales which turn into a speculators' bonanza at the public's expense.

The vast speculative gains available in theory are illustrated by the case of Thames Water, perhaps the most efficient and profitable of the authorities. It owns 17,000 acres of land, whose value on the market could be as great as £1 billion.

"But more than 99 per cent of our land is fully operational, and we need it," says Chris Bailey, TWA's head of public affairs. Some TWA sites have already been released, and there is lively controversy with local interests

about how far they should be retained as urban countryside, and how far brought into use as shortage land for housing. The release of a 93-acre reservoir site near Stoke Newington in 1992, when the new London ring-main will make it superfluous, will be the main bone of contention. Beyond that, TWA insists that it will continue to need most of its land, so long as Londoners still drink water.

The privatization issue which most concerns citizens is the question of standards. It has been suggested persistently that the authorities, burdened with elderly plant, and facing stricter EEC regulations, are pressing the Government to relax the standards imposed by the Control of Pollution Act (COBA), at least temporarily, so that potential buyers are not daunted by the prospect of penalties and costly repairs.

"Water will be the most regulated of all services, and that is as it should be, but the industry is very concerned over the interpretation of some directives, which are frankly unworkable," Mr Jones admits. On the Thames, pollution levels have risen in each of the last

three years, as rising population overburdens ageing plants.

Tom Berman is a leader of a local group which is on the point of taking the almost unprecedented step of suing TWA under COBA over the shortcomings of the sewage plant at Wargrave, in Berkshire. "A scheme to give extra capacity, to cope with an increase of nearly a third in the number of homes here since the 1970s, has been repeatedly delayed," he says. "Raw sewage is being allowed to flow into the river several times a month now, and to spread in a swamp across the fields."

"In going to court, we are really doing the job of HM Pollution Inspectorate. They agree there have been breaches of COBA, but won't sue because of the 'definite plans' the authority has to expand — which still have no definite date. It really horrifies us that it is reported that the Government may take powers in the privatization Bill to relax the COBA standards, and prevent people from seeking redress in the courts."

Mr Berman's MP, John Redwood, has helped the Wargrave group in their fight, but sees the Bill not as a threat but an opportunity. "I hope it will provide a tough regulatory regime with full right of redress. If not, then we shall see amendments being moved from our side of the House. But I see privatization as an ideal opportunity to get some really good standards enforced."

Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said earlier this week that taking water authorities to court "doesn't help tremendously", and hinted at a four-year amnesty to allow them to set their tanks in order, with the help of the already-announced special grant of £1 billion. Michael Howard, Minister for Water and Planning, followed up the hint with a warning that in the long run higher standards must mean dearer water for the consumer.

Conservationists, ramblers, potential investors, water managers, and citizens with sewage at the bottom of their gardens, will all be scrutinizing the small print of the coming Bill with intense hope and fear.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

The nowhere man

You have to feel sorry for Neil Kinnock. However hard he tries nothing seems to go right for him and the Labour Party. Both are acutely prone, usually from self-inflicted wounds, to a striking miners if it is Liverpool's Militants; if not Benn, it is Livingstone, Berrill Grant, Linda Bellos or Dennis Davies. If not Greenwell then Govan.

That he has been zealous in his attempt to create a new image for Labour is demonstrated by the change in his own appearance. He is rarely seen nowadays without his regulation dark suit, starched white shirt and club tie; his fixed smile and stiff posture. It is all designed to say, "Look at me, I'm serious and safe."

So he is. He has attempted to fashion the Labour Party in the same mould. He has been very successful. It has altered its image, its logo, the way it conducts its annual conferences and the style and content of its party political broadcasts. The party has become as glossy and slick as some of the brochures it now despatches to its members.

Nor are these changes merely superficial. The fact is that the left has been side-lined, the Militants, most of them, except on Merseyside, have been marginalized and the Skinner-type rabble-rousing trouble-makers neutralized. There has probably never been a time when a leader of the Labour Party has so much power in, and control over, the party. He even manages to get many of his own

nominees elected to the shadow cabinet and the NEC.

All this is reflected in the party's so-called new realism, and in the substantial policy changes that have been implemented. There are still pockets of ideological resistance, still a few dissidents holding out on the wider fringes of the brotherhood. There is still the odd Militant about, and there remain a few disaffected grumblers in the PLP. There is still the resentment or ambition of a Scargill or a Todd capable of causing trouble, and the whole problem of defence policy must be resolved. There are squabbles ahead, all right, but they should be minor skirmishes, a matter of mopping up, rather than full-scale battles.

On the whole Neil has done well. In the main, most of the party now accepts, if only reluctantly, the need to meet the challenge of a society that is very different from that which existed when it last won power in 1974. No member of the demoralized and defeated army of Michael Foot which returned to the Commons in 1983, would ever have believed the newly-elected young leader could achieve half what he has accomplished.

There can be no doubt about his dedication or single-mindedness. All his time over the last five years has been devoted to the regeneration of the Labour Party. And what has he achieved? Very little, and to say, Never in the history of British

politics can one man have done so much for so little.

There has hardly been an opinion poll since his election in 1983 that has shown either Neil or the party to be within political spitting distance of Mrs Thatcher and the Tories. And every time he appeared to turn the corner there was a Scargill, a Hutton, a Deirdre Wood or a Bob Gillespie gleefully awaiting him. All the changes he has made to attitudes and power structures still do not prevent an inarticulate, incompetent candidate from being selected by the local party. Remember whatever may be said about Gillespie, that he was the Govan CLP's choice. They selected him, and the NEC with all its new Neil-initiated power, endorsed him.

The reverberations from Govan will go on for a long time. Jim Sillars' victory will have a profound effect on the Labour Party and upon British politics. The first effect has been to cast further doubts on Kinnock's continued leadership. The votes had hardly been counted before some of his colleagues were heaping on him the blame for the defeat. Dennis Canavan called on him to inquire about "his own strategy or lack of one". Ron Brown said that the vote was a protest against the "new realism". "The trouble," he moaned, "is that the leadership has not led." George Galloway has not stopped whining.

These, of course, are the malcontents — the disaffected

and the disappointed. They are also out to prove their political machismo. Their criticism is not unexpected. But that does not mean they are unimportant. They are saying publicly what they know many of their more credible colleagues are saying in private. It is this knowledge that gives them confidence. They know they can look their colleagues in the eye and dare to be disavowed and go unchallenged.

That is reason enough for Neil to be worried. But there is more. The prattling of the likes of these does not merely undermine the leader, but makes criticism of him respectable. What these start, others will gleefully join.

Robin Cook has already done so. The shadow cabinet minister does not have the courage to say exactly what he means, but feels the need to speak in coded riddles. Already he has supported the idea of a refusal to pay the community charge, despite his leader's declared opposition to this, and now speaks mysteriously of the need to "change the rules of engagement" in the Commons with the threat of disruptive tactics.

Nothing could be more sapping for the authority and morale of a leader. Yet Robin is supposed to be Neil's friend and supporter. No wonder his real friends are saying that he is despondent and depressed and might go before the next general election. Like Lenin, he is tired of putting One Step Forward, Two Steps Back.

NOV 18 ON THIS DAY 1922



As the followers of Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) tightened their grip on Turkey, the last Sultan was smuggled out of the country aboard a British warship — with a request that his five wives be cared for and sent on later.

The Flight of the Caliph

The continued tension, the daily uneasy friction in Constantinople, has suddenly been illuminated, as by a flash, by a dramatic event that may have strange repercussions throughout the Mohammedan world. The Sultan, MAHMED VAHID-ED-DIN, manacled by the resolution of the Angora Assembly depriving him of his temporal sovereignty, and by the more recent resolution threatening him with prosecution for treason, has appealed for British protection, has taken refuge on a British warship, and is now on his way to Malta. He has not abdicated. He has refused to recognize the verdicts of the Angora Assembly. He still regards himself as Emperor of the Ottomans, Caliph of the Faithful. He ignored the angry representations of RAFFET PASHA; he ignored the revolutionary decision of Angora to separate the functions of Sultan and Caliph. With a courage remarkable in a man of his age and of his retired life, he remained in the hope that the sad course of events might be stayed. He had not lived a heroic life. His uncle, ABDUL AZIZ, was deposed when he was a boy. His eldest brother MURAD had a brief and tragic reign of a few

months. Another brother, ABDUL HAMID, reigned for over thirty years, and concentrated power in his hands and revived the fading prestige of the Ottoman Caliphate. He, too, was deposed by a Young Turk revolution, and a third brother, RESHAD, was dragged from a life of easy retirement to look with bewildered eyes, a Constitutional Sultan, on the doings of a new kind of Turk, who involved his country in war after war. RESHAD died in 1918, and, just as the war was crumbling into inevitable defeat, VAHID-ED-DIN came to the Throne. The Allies occupied Constantinople and protected the residence of the Sultan, while after in Anatolia a new national movement rose and spread, directed against the Allies, using the name of the Sultan and Caliph in order to provoke resentment against Great Britain throughout the troubled East, and yet revolutionary in its essence and definitely opposed to the sovereignty of the SULTAN. The clash between the Kemalists and the religious and temporal authority of the SULTAN, long foreseen, has come at last. The Kemalists have come to Constantinople, and the SULTAN has been compelled to seek safety in flight under British protection. A man well on in life, he showed unexpected courage at the last, and maintained his traditional claims so long as he might... The SULTAN wrote to GENERAL HARRINGTON. Yesterday morning a car drove up at the Palace, and the SULTAN, with his little son ERTOGRUL, bearing the name of an ancestor of the heroic age of the dynasty of OSMAN, was carried away to the harbour and safely conveyed on board HMS Malaya.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

RETURN OF THE BHUTTOS

Wednesday's general election in Pakistan will be remembered as one of the most significant moments in the country's 41-year political history. It is one of those rare turning points when a dictatorship transforms itself peacefully into a democracy.

It compares with the elections of 1977 in India, 1983 in Argentina, 1987 in South Korea and, more recently, this October's plebiscite in Chile. On each occasion a popular mandate buried the pretensions of military or civilian dictators to exercise autocratic power and laid a foundation for democratic rule.

The first victor in Pakistan was undoubtedly democracy. Once the rules had been determined, the campaign, the voting and the count were demonstrably peaceful, fair and efficient. For a country that has had so little practice, that was a remarkable achievement.

After the chaos which followed Pakistan's last two party-based elections, in 1970 and 1977, it sets a welcome precedent. The only blemish was the fact that so many voters were disenfranchised by the acting Government's insistence that they could not vote without identity cards — and they had not been issued to everyone.

Abroad, the return of Pakistan to democracy will help to assuage the embarrassment of its Western allies which had, in the past, had to overlook its domestic politics while committing themselves to its defence. It should also ease Islamabad's historically difficult relationship with India. That has always fared better during Pakistan's short phases of representative government.

The election result should, in addition, offer hope to the people of other Third World countries who aspire to democracy. It refutes the spurious argument that poor Third World voters are politically or economically unfit for democracy.

The second victors in Pakistan's election are the Bhutto family and their People's Party (PPP), who emerged as the voters' clear preference. After 11 years in the political wilderness, with its leaders harassed, arrested, flogged and even hanged, the PPP has not only re-emerged as the single biggest party, but has also crushed its rival, the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA). It is the only party to have won seats in each of Pakistan's four provinces and it swept the troubled province of Sind.

The IDA, for its part, has been reduced

almost to a regional party. Even in Punjab, where it won over 80 per cent of its seats, it still lost to the PPP by a significant margin.

The Bhutto ladies have emerged as the national leaders of Pakistan. They were the only candidates to win seats outside their home provinces, in each case by overwhelming majorities.

Two of the IDA's prime ministerial hopefuls, Mr Junejo, the former Prime Minister, and Mr Jatoi, who broke with the PPP, lost both the constituencies they were each contesting. A third, the sitting Punjab chief minister, lost two of the four home seats he was standing for. Moreover, all the main leaders who had opposed the Bhuttos or allied with the late General Zia's regime were defeated. They include four Cabinet ministers, leaders and senior opposition figures.

Despite such spectacular advances, however, the PPP did not win an outright majority. This may be partly attributable to the identity card requirement, which will have deprived many of its rural and female supporters without a vote. The turnout was lower even than in General Zia's non-party polls in 1985.

Yet the election, even with so low a turnout, represented an outstanding victory for the party's leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto. She is Wednesday's third victor. Her opponents tried, but failed, to portray her as a threat. She countered by conveying a new image and a new message of moderation and achievement.

To do so, she had to alter her party's socialist ideology, break with many of its stalwart leaders, and make concessions to the Army. None of this was easy, but the results show that she succeeded. They also show that the PPP owes its majority as much to her as it does to the memory of her late father. For Miss Bhutto, at 35, after seven years of jail or exile, and with the odds stacked against her, that is an uncommon feat.

She has now earned the right to be Pakistan's next Prime Minister. It would now be a negation of the popular mandate if the country's acting president, under the terms of the Constitution amended by General Zia, were to exercise his prerogative to choose the Prime Minister by calling on someone else. The people of Pakistan have voted for the People's Party and for Miss Bhutto. For their sake, and for the sake of a democratic Pakistan, their verdict must be scrupulously obeyed.

MONOPOLY OR MERGER?

The GEC and Siemens bid for Plessey is likely to be one of a long line of competition questions which will face the Trade and Industry Secretary, Lord Young, as 1992 approaches. The completion of the EEC's internal market, as the lowering of trade barriers scheduled for 1992 is grandly termed, has encouraged many large companies inside and outside the market to take up their positions ahead of the event.

In the electronics industry there is already some evidence that European companies are failing to compete in the larger world market. British companies in particular are alleged to be too small to compete internationally. A study by management consultants McKinsey for the National Economic Development Council this summer concluded that UK companies needed to develop a "critical mass" if they were to make the most of the opportunities presented by 1992.

From the producers' point of view these arguments have always had force. It is more comfortable to be a large participant in the market-place, and the advantages of size were advanced long before the EEC was invented. Equally, the need for a thriving small business sector as well as competitive multinationals has become accepted wisdom.

From the point of view of competition policy and consumer protection 1992 does not make much difference. British companies have long argued the need to allow mergers to enable them to compete effectively overseas. Where markets genuinely are international and there are sufficient competing providers, these arguments have carried weight. But where markets are local or mergers may lead to an unacceptable degree of monopoly, the Government has rightly stepped in to prevent further industrial concentration.

CHILD GUIDANCE

Like any set of disparate statistics, those contained within *Young People in 1987*, the annual survey carried out by the Health Education Unit at Exeter University, can be used to support any number of conclusions. In one sense, however, its profile of young people aged from 11 to 16 is both consistent and predictable: it confirms yet again that children reflect the age in which they live and the manners of those whose job it is to guide them.

The two-dimensional picture is disturbing. It is one of children who spend more time before their television than their teachers, who have regular incomes to spend — and do so on drinking and discos. Too many smoke, girls more than boys — though the number is slowly going down.

It is easy to preach at young people — who react much as their so-called "betters" deserve. Every generation since Adam has rebelled against what it sees as the failings of the last one. Bringing up children to lead happy and balanced lives, in a world which is full of temptation and personal pressures, is an art — and one which is bewildering and elusive.

Those caveats aside, the statistics suggest the need for correctives. For children to spend more than five hours per schoolday (more at weekends) watching television sounds excessive. Television can be both instructive, but it is hard to believe that any child can derive so much benefit every night. It suggests (and the survey confirms) too little homework. But it also hints at parental negligence.

That children are smoking and drinking raises similar issues of parents' responsibilities. Every school in the past has had its dare-devil element who have smoked or drunk as a ritual

protest against prohibition. But the figures suggest a serious gap in communication between the children and the parent/teacher establishment.

Young people learn best by example. Parents and teachers who smoke should not be surprised if the children in their care follow their lead. Families who spend every evening transfixed by a succession of soap operas are unwittingly rearing a new generation of captive viewers.

These may be ancient truths. But no previous age has been so well endowed with alternatives to study and hard work. While video recorders and hi-fi can play a part in the learning process, they remain for the most part diversions — whose benefit is temporary and trivial. Each age has had its temptations, but this one has more than most.

It is also, increasingly, an age of working mothers. Large numbers of children, so it seems, arrive home from school to start their evening's homework on their own. Diligent students will do so without prompting. But the majority of young people need to be taught the right priorities.

This is a cleaner age and a relatively prosperous one — for those in the First World anyway. But even with the wide availability of computers, calculators and other labour-saving devices, it remains one in which people must work to retain their prosperity. Each generation is dismayed by the habits of the next — and each manages somehow to muddle through as usual. But each generation also has a responsibility to the next. *Young People in 1987* shows how far the parents and teachers of today are falling short.

Drastic solution in N Ireland

From Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP for Orpington (Conservative)

Sir, The article by my colleague, Mr Ian Gow, MP (Commentary, October 31) commending the application of North Down Conservative Association to affiliate with the National Union of Conservative Associations was timely. The application has, however, met with the predictable response (report, November 14).

Affiliation would have implied acceptance of the principle that Northern Ireland is entitled to full integration with the rest of the United Kingdom. Such a principle has never been conceded by any United Kingdom Government and is contrary to the spirit of the lamentable Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Integration remains the only untried option. We have tried devolution, direct rule, and joint consultation with the Irish Republic. The enmity between the two sides persists. Integration, which would allow for the elimination of sectarian differences within nationwide political parties, could bring peace, stability and reconciliation if it followed a re-drawing of the border.

It is now clear that the biggest error made by those responsible for the Anglo-Irish settlement of the 1920s was the inclusion within Northern Ireland of border areas where the population was predominantly nationalist, republican and Catholic. The majority in those areas have never accepted British rule nor lost their allegiance to Dublin. Many have provided support and recruits for terrorists whose stated objective is to "drive the British out of Ireland."

The time has come to recognise this unyielding fact and to adopt the ultimate solution. Her Majesty has no need of unwilling subjects. Let the loyal majority, by plebiscite, reaffirm their determination to remain British.

Let those who wish to opt out of the United Kingdom vote to do so. Transfer the opting-out border areas to the Irish Republic. Pay generous resettlement grants to those who find themselves on the "wrong" side of the new border. This initiative would give the courageous and hard-pressed British of Northern Ireland the constitutional liberties they deserve.

I put this suggestion to the Prime Minister at her Question Time recently. She said she did not believe it would work (Parliament, October 20). It would certainly be very expensive, but it would be worth every penny for lives saved and peace restored. Yours faithfully, IVOR STANBROOK, House of Commons, November 15.

Ward courtesies

From Mrs Mary Collier

Sir, The Royal Marsden Hospital, where I have been a frequent patient in recent years, has devised, I think, an admirable compromise in patient treatment (leading article, November 14).

The doctors, from consultants down, invariably call the patient Mr or Mrs — and treat one with friendly courtesy and frankness. The nurses, after inquiring of new arrivals whether they find it acceptable, call patients by their first names and are in turn so addressed. (They all wear name tags).

The doctors maintain the patient's dignity; the nurses offer a genuinely "sisterly" sympathy in those private moments of pain, depression or physical embarrassment which they, more often than the doctors, have to deal with. There is no false mateyness, only delicacy and tact.

Yours faithfully, MARY COLLIER, 34 Beryn Road, Richmond, Surrey, November 14.

From Mr Maurice Sutton
Sir, I understand that in the twenties physicians at the London Hospital, for one, did their rounds flourishing their canes, exhibiting their gold tie-pins and demanding that their poor patients call them "Sir". The patients themselves were treated as hardly belonging to the same species.

Would your leader writer really prefer that to the doctor's use of a name that indicates an affectionate accord with a patient and can instil a sense of trust, so invaluable in patient care? Yours faithfully, MAURICE SUTTON (Director, Department of Radiotherapy and Oncology, North Middlesex Hospital, Edmonton, N18, November 15).

Prince and architects

From Mr Martin Lipson

Sir, Prince Charles's TV programme, *A Vision of Britain*, (report, October 29, letters, November 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15) has unleashed a reaction from some architects in private practice, denouncing what they see as their right to be the arbiters of architectural taste.

Not all architects take such an arrogant standpoint; in particular, I believe, those who work in local authority architects' departments, as I do, or in technical aid centres, have a very different perspective.

Our job, as I see it, is to serve those sections of the public that do not have the resources to commission architects, and to meet the needs of local communities, of which we feel ourselves to be a part. We do this whenever we can by consultation with the future

Why tax inspectors quit Revenue

From Mr Michael Beament

Sir, I have been involved in recruiting inspectors of taxes on behalf of professional firms and blue-chip companies for many years. The reasons for inspectors looking outside the Inland Revenue (report, November 16) are many and various. Through my discussions with inspectors I find that salary is not really the prime motivator.

The Government has done much recently to improve the lot of the inspector by introducing a better salary structure and accelerated promotions. However, it is difficult to improve morale in the hard-stretched south-eastern districts where staff shortages are at their most critical levels.

Inspectors moved, often unwilling, from the regions to central London districts see little prospect of a transfer back as, quite logically, the Revenue could not grant such transfers or London staffing levels would be decimated. Some have told me that a low base remuneration of inspectors into an attractive private sector is preferable to a mass exodus to the regions. Once a precedent has been set by the Revenue in granting transfers then the flood-gates would open.

The other side of the coin is the plight of the inspector in the regions who knows that, having signed a mobility agreement on entering the service, he/she is likely to be sent to London if he/she wishes to progress in the Revenue.

Typically, the inspector will be 25-28 years old, often married with a young family. The insubstantial rise in pay and London weightings cannot begin to offset the traumas of uprooting the family, with the children approaching school age, moving to an area of high house prices with high interest rates, leading to fear of a drop in the quality of life.

If a post that can offer a stimulating career with an attractive salary structure comes up in his/her home town then why should the inspector stay in the Revenue? Loyalty to the service can only count for so much.

It must be said that mobility problems are only just one factor. Another is job satisfaction itself. Here the Revenue has, in a drive towards efficiency in moving work through the tax districts, moved towards an apparent obsession with the statistics of management. Many inspectors, particularly over

the past six months, have told me that doing one job well has become secondary to getting two jobs done. We must remember that inspectors are intelligent and often highly qualified people who take a pride in their work. To be told from above that the quantity of work completed means more than the quality really rankles.

Looking at the wider aspects, there can hardly be an inspector in the land who does not know someone who has turned from "gamekeeper" to "poacher". The stories they tell, having left, inspire others to emulate their success, and few have returned to the Revenue over the years.

Recently the service has applied the finger-in-the-dyke approach by making it clear that defecting inspectors who are fully trained will not be welcomed back except under extreme compassionate circumstances. This may have stopped a few more cautious inspectors but, ironically, those who years for the cut and thrust of life in the private sector.

These points are just some which highlight the problems of the inspector in the Revenue. It is not a situation which needs money throwing at it; the Government must come up with a more flexible structure to ensure the survival of this most vital tool of the Exchequer.

Yours etc, MICHAEL BEAMENT, Beament Leslie Thomas Recruitment Consultancy Ltd, 107-111 Fleet Street, EC4.

Engineers' salaries

From Mr Jack Lipman

Sir, Mr Peter McAinsh (General Appointments, November 10) discusses the reasons for the shortage of engineers, who are now in demand. The answer lies in the job advertisements appearing in the same issue.

When the chartered engineer can command, particularly in his/her early years, the salaries offered to young accountants, solicitors, and other non-productive professions, the able sixth-formers may be tempted into science and technology and eventually help to fill the gaps in human resources now developing in an industry (and I quote Mr McAinsh) "vital to the creation of wealth in Britain". Yours faithfully, J. LIPMAN, 21 Pembroke Road, Old Portsmouth, Hampshire.

A man's a man . . .

From Mr Jack Sykes

Sir, Around the turn of the century, and up until 1914, there were occasions when my father, a family man on a low wage or unemployed, found himself unable to pay his rates. He never defaulted but worked off his obligation by breaking loads of road stones. The alternative could have been prosecution, 14 days in the local lock-up, and the ultimate humiliation, seeing his name in the paper.

Road maintenance no longer calls for the smashing of boulders with a sledgehammer. Nevertheless it ought to be possible for local authorities to devise useful tasks, whereby any able-bodied person genuinely unable to pay the community charge could still pay his way and hold his head up.

Or is "looking the whole world in the face and not owing any man" a forgotten virtue? Yours etc, J. SYKES, 7 Hill Top, Lingards Road, Slough, Berkshire, November 12.

Falklands fishing

From Mr Christopher Savage

Sir, I cannot believe that Sir Peter Scott or his friends in the Falklands Islands can possibly have considered the consequences of the action for which he is seeking our support (November 10).

The Falklands 150-mile conservation zone and the scientific management being applied to it is a remarkably well-conceived and far-sighted, indeed rare, example of true "sustainable development". It has provided an economic model worthy of consideration in many other contexts — even, by analogy, to the problems of small nations producing tropical hardwoods.

If the Falkland Islanders, who are already benefiting enormously, now turn the screws on their customers, what Government or international agency is going to support such an economic model elsewhere? The world will not only be poorer, but practical solutions to such problems as global warming will be much harder to find.

users and our satisfaction is that local people feel that the result is theirs. The present Government doesn't seem to me to value these qualities in local government and the voluntary sector, and would rather see what it believes to be a more efficient, cost-effective, businesslike approach, most likely removed from public control. In many inner-city boroughs capital programmes have been dramatically reduced by withdrawal of funds, and the private-sector building boom claims our best professionals at an increasing rate.

Neighbourhood leisure facilities, centres and homes for the elderly and children in care, workshops, and much more besides are not projects for which architects hope to become famous for their contemporary styling, and in many cases the quality of design has had to be lowered anyway for lack of money. Our priority has had to be satisfying basic human needs.

For us, architecture is not only about the visual, which the Prince seemed so concerned about. It is primarily about people, and most people don't like architects who put their own ideas first.

Prince Charles's espousal of "community architecture" is to be applauded, and so is his desire that architecture should uplift the human spirit. But it is extremely difficult to rise to this challenge in the public realm without positive Government support for local authority architects' departments. Yours faithfully, MARTIN LIPSON, 97 Louisville Road, SW17.

Impact of rise in ITV levy

From the Chairman of LWT (Holdings) plc

Sir, The Public Accounts Committee's recent criticism of the last change in the ITV levy (report, November 10) underlines the difficulties of forecasting the impact such changes may have on the finances of both the ITV companies and the Exchequer. Although it is true to say that the new system collected less revenue than would have been the case had the old been in operation, the total amount of levy increased three-fold between 1985 and 1987. The new system also had the beneficial effect of reducing the marginal rate of corporation tax plus levy on ITV's UK profits from 85 per cent to 55 per cent.

ITV is now faced with yet another change in the levy, both in its basis and amount. Various figures have been suggested by the Government, the least onerous of which would reduce the profits of the five major companies by an estimated 40 per cent. The marginal rate of tax-plus-levy would rise to between 75 per cent and 90 per cent.

The impact of this possible change is as unquantifiable as the last alteration in the system. But with only four years of the existing contracts remaining, any substantial increase in levy now can only have an adverse effect on the programmes and profitability of ITV, at a time when both need to be enhanced.

It is in the long-term interests of the viewer, and the Exchequer, that ITV is financially strong enough to compete effectively in the broadcasting world envisaged in the recent White Paper. Trying to recover notional lost revenue, if that is what the PAC was suggesting, could be dangerously counter-productive. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER BLAND, Chairman, LWT (Holdings) plc, South Bank Television Centre, London SE1, November 15.

Peace and the PLO

From Sir John Wilton

Sir, In your editorial of November 14 you point out that Mr Arafat faces the difficult task of convincing the outside world that the PLO has developed the degree of political coherence necessary to coerce the Palestinian rejectionist minority into complying with the new strategy.

Is this likely to be a more difficult task than that which faces Mr Shamir in coercing those elements (minority or majority?) in Israel who reject any notion of a State which does not include Judaea and Samaria? Yours sincerely, JOHN WILTON, 69 Fore Street, Plymouth ST Maurice, Plymouth, Devon.

Postal shake-up

From Mr Colin Horspole

Sir, I would like to assure Miss Copp (November 7) and other people who have recently written to *The Times* (November 12) that the help they give us by posting their letters in separately-marked boxes is of utmost importance to the Royal Mail in helping to speed letters on their way.

We have looked at the points raised and have taken corrective action in the west London area which will ensure customers get the full benefits of the sorting work they undertake for us.

Yours faithfully, COLIN HORSPOLE (Head of Delivery Services, Royal Mail Letters), The Post Office Headquarters, 33 Grosvenor Place, SW1, November 16.

Present indicative

From Mr Ian R. Smith

Sir, Mr Oldfield (November 9) may actually be lucky to receive shaving foam from some thoughtful person at Christmas.

I am given after-shave lotion — an odd thought, considering that I've sported a beard for 25 years. Yours faithfully, IAN R. SMITH, 10 Wheatlands Square, Heaton, Bradford, West Yorkshire.

From Mrs Elizabeth Douglas
Sir, Most to be dreaded are the Christmas presents that one is liable to receive if one happens to be a poor relation of the sort of old-fashioned Scotsman who believed that poor people should be given poor presents, and rich people rich presents, in keeping with their stations in life.

When I was a poor relation the worst present that I ever received was second-hand make-up. However, it had an effect: it put me off that particular brand for life. Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH DOUGLAS, Austen Croft, 31 Austen Road, Guildford, Surrey.

Festive mishaps

From Mr R. T. M. Greene

Sir, My father-in-law, who was a vicar, recounted the occasion, when, some days before Christmas, he received a mystery parcel. This was placed, along with the other family presents, under the Christmas tree. On opening it after lunch he found that the note inside read "please scatter these ashes in the churchyard". Yours faithfully, ROGER GREENE, 27 Nightingale Road, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, November 12.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 17: His Excellency Monsieur Thongay Bodhisane was received in audience by The Queen and presented his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Democratic Republic of Laos to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Souham Sakonhith Nhom (Third Secretary).

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Robert Andrew had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his retirement as a Permanent Secretary, the Cabinet Office.

General Sir Charles Huxtable had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Aide de Camp General to Her Majesty.

The President of the Republic of Iceland visited The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh and remained to luncheon.

The Duchess of York and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon were present.

His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Iceland and Mrs Egilsson, Mr Kornelius Johann Sigurdsson (Private Secretary to The President) and Mr David Ratford (Assistant Under Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Mrs Ratford had the honour of being invited.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh held an Evening Reception at Buckingham Palace for the Diplomatic Corps at which The Prince and Princess of Wales and The Duke and Duchess of Kent were present.

The String Orchestra of the Grenadier Guards played selections of music during the evening.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard and a dismounted detachment of the Household Cavalry were on duty.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chairman of the Council of a Celebration of British Food and Farming Year 1989, this morning chaired a meeting of the Council at Buckingham Palace.

The Prince Edward this evening attended a concert at the Royal Festival Hall in aid of the Kennedy Memorial Trust.

Captain William McLean was in attendance.

The White Dove Ball

The White Dove Winter Ball in aid of The Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund will take place on Monday, November 28, at the Dorchester, Park Lane, W1. The Royal Ballet will perform at this evening ball. Some tickets and tables available at £60 a ticket, including Champagne Reception. Inquiries: 352 3786 (9 to 5).



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OBITUARY

Jennie Lee: baroness, arts minister, wife of Nye

Baroness Lee of Ashridge — Jennie Lee, widow of Aneurin Bevan — died on November 16. She was 84.

Once the youngest member of the House of Commons, she exercised political influence through a large part of the 20th century. Her ardour for left wing solutions to social ills never flagged. It was a fitting climax when, in 1967, she was elected chairman of the Labour Party — an organization which over the years had often seemed not big enough to contain the ambitions of either her or her husband.

She was Britain's first Minister for the Arts; her term of office saw the founding of the Open University.

Jennie Lee was born on November 3, 1904, in Lochgelly, Fife, daughter of a miner. It was an environment where it was natural, in the words of one commentator, that she should be "swept into socialism long before the age of consent". And although it was a warm-hearted socialism of the heart rather than the head, there was, then and later, an element of bitterness in it. "I am learning," she wrote to a girlfriend friend, "how guillotines find favour in a revolutionary period."

The family tradition in revolution was that of the then lively Independent Labour Party. ILP activists were frequent guests at James Lee's home.

With a succession of scholarships Jennie Lee graduated in arts and then in law at Edinburgh University, and worked for a time as a teacher. Meanwhile the ILP identified her as a propagandist with powers beyond her years. She was witty as well as fervent. They put her up, at the age of 24, as their candidate at a by-election at North Lanark. She won the seat from the Tories with a majority of nearly 7,000.

At Westminster she quickly achieved something of a national reputation (faster indeed than that other firebrand from a mining background who was

to become her husband). Her youth, her sex, an attractive "Salvation Army lassie" image (and an accent more engaging than some Scottish voices Westminster was accustomed to) — all that, combined with her revolutionary ardour, caught the fancy of the media of the time.

When the Tory Government was replaced by Ramsay MacDonald's minority Labour administration, there was still no shortage of targets for her political ammunition.

But her Westminster career was interrupted. She lost the North Lanark seat in the socialist debacle of 1931 and did not return to the House until 1945, when (now an official Labour candidate) she won the Midlands constituency of Cannock.

The intervening years she spent as a journalist and lecturer. Her platform skills were in demand in the United States, the Soviet Union and

various European countries. For a time, after the war, she was joint editor of *Tribune*.

In 1934 she had married Bevan. They were both Left-wingers. They were both romantics who saw politics as much more than an exercise in economics. They established themselves as a formidable partnership of equals.

But during the war (part of which Jennie Lee spent with the Ministry of Aircraft Production, and part as a political correspondent) it became clear that her husband's career had to be measured on a different scale of magnitude.

Churchill could dismiss Bevan as a "squalid nuisance", but in fact he was evolving into something much more important in Labour's destinies as a major custodian of the mantle of the Left. When Labour came to power after the war it was he, not his wife, who was given high office.

Thus in 1945, in the words of Bevan's biographer (Michael Foot), "Jennie found herself moving towards a far-reaching personal decision to subside her own strong and never-abandoned feminist instincts. It was not made in a moment, and with her temperamental it was far from easy."

The public image of Nye Bevan was aggressive, but there was a vulnerable innocence to him which could have been his destruction. His wife could stop him laying himself unnecessarily open to attack from his many enemies, outside and inside the Labour movement. At other times she probably hardened his heart when he might have compromised.

There were practical ways she helped him with his writing. Bevan, brilliantly self-educated, lacked the discipline formal schooling would have

given. Above all, she provided private support.

Their homes, in London plus a farm in Buckinghamshire, were always places with the intellectual glamour of what would in a different stratum of society would have been called a *salon*. Part of the secret of the success of the domestic arrangement was that they had brought in the Lee parents to run the practical side of things.

To his friends, Bevan's death in 1960, at the height of his powers, came at a particularly cruel time, when he seemed to be losing the fight for his kind of socialism. Yet in a sense, "Bevanism" — source of so much inter-pine conflict in the party in his lifetime — was to come into its own a couple of decades later. The shade of Nye was visibly hovering in the air when Michael Foot was chosen as party leader: the party's heart

was thought by some to rule its head. Jennie Lee, by her nurturing of Bevan's memory, which she guarded with sometimes fierce loyalty, must accept part of the credit (or blame) for the way the Labour Party chose to go.

Meanwhile, at the age of 60, she herself saw Ministerial office when Harold Wilson gave her responsibility for the arts. In the following four years, Government spending on the arts doubled, a fact that owed something to the special respect shown to her by the Prime Minister.

But part of her achievement was to disarm the inevitable criticism of the very idea of an "Arts Minister". She provided commendably more interested in encouraging imaginative schemes of artistic endeavour than in bureaucratic planning. The heart was still more important than the head.

She saw the job, as her husband would have done, as proving that socialism was concerned with eliminating spiritual as well as material poverty. The same doctrine inspired her in putting into effect the plan for a "University of the Air", a name she abolished in favour of the "Open University". Her particular pride was to insist that it must not compromise on academic standards.

Party controversy still threatened while she was in office. She was tempted to resign (as Nye once did) when out on social security were mooted, but compromised on the ground that defence expenditure was to be trimmed too.

In 1966 she was made a Privy Counsellor. In 1970 (having lost her seat in the General Election) she became a life peer. She was an honorary Fellow of the Royal Academy and an honorary LLD of Cambridge.

She published an early autobiography, *Tomorrow is a New Day*, in 1939 and during the war wrote *Our Ally*, *Our Enemy* and *My Life with Nye* (1980).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.G.F. Brash and Miss A.E.S. Wright
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Brash, of Woking, Surrey, and Edwin, daughter of Mrs Susan Wright, of Aldborough, North Yorkshire.

Mr R.M. Chester and Miss C.P. Lumley
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr R. Chester, of Warford, Hampshire, and Mrs P.M. Elsom, of Kensington, London, and Clare, daughter of Dr and Mrs K.P.S. Lumley, of Putney, London.

Mr A.M. Cuthbert and Miss F.J. Finlay
The engagement is announced between Alan, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William M. Cuthbert, of Old Ballinacrain, Belfast, and Fiona-Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert E. Finlay, of Abbotsley, Kilmacolin, Renfrewshire.

Mr P.R. Elliott and Miss S.D. Hana
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of the late Mr Thomas Elliott and Mrs Elliott, of Worcester Park, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hana, of Upper Kilcott, Gloucestershire.

Mr C.M.P. Jolly and Miss S.E. Sears
The engagement is announced between Carlo Michele Paolo, son of Dr Michael Jolly, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, and Sarah Brierley, daughter of Mr and Mrs Murray Sears, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr J.F. Roberts and Miss J.E. Holden
The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr J. Roberts and Mrs G. Roberts, of Bournemouth, and Judith, daughter of Mr G.P. Holden, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

Mr C.H. Rowntree and Miss S.E. Theobald
The engagement is announced between Clive, son of Dr and Mrs R.K. Rowntree, of Comp. St. Edmund, Kent, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Theobald, of Midhurst, West Sussex.

Mr D.S. Patterson and Miss M.A. Farquharson
The engagement is announced between David Scott, son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Patterson, of Cairnmuir, Scotland, and Melanie Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Farquharson, of Woodford Green, Essex.

Mr D.S. Ritchie and Mrs A.E. Higgins
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs D.S. Ritchie, of Chalmers Watson.

Mr D.J. Terry and Mrs M.S. Kane
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs T. J. Terry, of Whiteley, Surrey, and Moira Kane, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Kane, of Hay, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr J.D. Webb and Miss J.M. Binkley
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Mr P.J. Oliver and Miss G.E.S. Smith
The engagement is announced between Philip, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R.M. Oliver, of Eppingham, Surrey, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.E.S. Smith, of Fitcham, Surrey.

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Mr J.W. Sampson and Miss M.E. Thomas
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mrs J.H. Sampson, of New Southgate, London, and Mrs M.A. Sampson, of Finchley, London, and Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.R. Thomas, of Hale Barns, Cheshire.

Mr C.J. Scholes and Miss V.P. Harding
The engagement is announced between Crawford James, elder son of Mr and Mrs C. Scholes, of Cliviger, Lancashire, and Victoria Prichard, elder daughter of Mr M. Harding, FRCS, and Dr P. Harding, of Woodhouse, Leicestershire.

Mr E. Snell and Miss V.M. Drake
The engagement is announced between Edward, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Snell, of Saffron Walden, Essex, and Valentine Keays, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Drake, of Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Mr D.J. Terry and Mrs M.S. Kane
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Dinners

Order of Malta
The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of the Order of St John, and the Duchess of Gloucester were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Sir Peter Hope, President of the British Association of the Order, presided. The other guests included:

The Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, Lord Bishop of London, Lord Bishop of Exeter, Lord Bishop of Winchester, Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Bishop of Bristol, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Lord Bishop of Hereford, Lord Bishop of Leicester, Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Lord Bishop of Norwich, Lord Bishop of Oxford, Lord Bishop of Salisbury, Lord Bishop of Southampton, Lord Bishop of Worcester, Lord Bishop of York, Lord Bishop of Ely, Lord Bishop of Exeter, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Lord Bishop of Hereford, Lord Bishop of Leicester, Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Lord Bishop of Norwich, Lord Bishop of Oxford, Lord Bishop of Salisbury, Lord Bishop of Southampton, Lord Bishop of Worcester, Lord Bishop of York, Lord Bishop of Ely, Lord Bishop of Exeter, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Lord Bishop of Hereford, Lord Bishop of Leicester, Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Lord Bishop of Norwich, Lord Bishop of Oxford, Lord Bishop of Salisbury, Lord Bishop of Southampton, Lord Bishop of Worcester, Lord Bishop of York, Lord 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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Lack of evidence

A dog on its hind legs may or may not be all very well in a puppet, but the look-out for a human female in dark blue is visibly compromised. Since the Sex Discrimination Act awarded her equal pay for equal risk, she has increasingly been encountering the harsher facts of constabulary duty.

"The only thing that worried me," reported a WPC on 40 Minutes (BBC2), recalling a street battle with a gang of yobs determined to tip her over a 30-foot drop, "was that my mum had given me a pair of orange knickers for Christmas. I kept thinking the whole world can see my orange knickers."

In displaying both her courage and her femininity, this anecdote gave her double points, but it is difficult to see how broadcasting it can have bolstered her vocal determination to be accepted as equal to her male colleagues instead of being regarded as a mere *ancilla*. In the nature of things, it is more likely to have given unlooked-for ammunition to those citizens who would prefer all women in uniform to take in their skirts.

A *Policewoman's Lot* hitched rides with several of the West Midlands Constabulary's 920 female "pods" as they patrolled the more dangerous parts of Birmingham. Though keyed on the aspect of increasing violence towards them, with their Chief Constable talking darkly of "the retreat of chivalry", the programme failed to deliver a single punch on screen.

What we saw was a routine selection of unresolving mini-dramas in which women officers did fairly unremarkable work indistinguishable from that of the men. Since one had always suspected this to be the case, the staged conversations and voice-over accounts of public mayhem seemed to come from another world.

Martin Cropper

Composer, band-leader and lecturer Gavin Bryars, whose Ensemble is playing in London tonight, talks to Stephen Pettitt

Music from a different angle



The Ensemble (left to right): Chris Ekers, electrician, Gavin Bryars, Dave Smith, Roger Heaton, Martin Allen, Leslie Howard, Martin Jones

"Who do you write for?" "More for myself than anyone, I suppose, though of course I am deeply concerned for the audience." I asked this question of Gavin Bryars at the beginning of our interview, because it worries me that so many composers of minimalist-cum-New Age music, into which category Bryars is often unceremoniously stuck, seem to write solely for the purpose of attracting as many listeners as possible, no matter how vacuous the music might thus have to be.

Bryars, whose own Ensemble's Contemporary Music Network tour reaches the Queen Elizabeth Hall tonight, in any case affably and reasonably resists any labels one tries to pin on him. His music is gentle, predominantly diatonic, sometimes repetitive, but definitively substantial, and the fact that there is a lot of it—he is asked to compose by international opera houses and young chamber groups alike these days, and recently provided a large scale piece to celebrate the opening of the Tate Gallery in Liverpool—does nothing to diminish its finely-sculpted, sensitive qualities.

Since 1985 he has held the title of Professor of Music at Leicester Polytechnic, though he has less time than he would like to spend on the job these days ("Sometimes the students ask me, ironically, who I am"). The course in which he participates is called Performance Studies, and his wide range is something reflected in Bryars's own education.

He graduated from Sheffield University with a degree in philosophy rather than in music, for the simple reason that "you could only do music with a foreign language after the first year, and by that time I'd had enough of French". (He remains, however, an ardent Francophile.)

During his time there he learnt to play double bass, and supplemented his income by working in jazz clubs. Before long he was doing the job professionally, with

his friends Derek Bailey and Tony Oxley.

But the stimulus of his private teacher of earlier years, the Sheffield Cathedral organist George Linstead, who doubled as the local music critic and possessed an open and perceptive mind, proved enduring. Before long—in 1966—Bryars had turned to studying the scores of Messiaen, Stockhausen and Cage, and two years later he was in America, his

stay extended through Cage offering him work on his seminal piece *HPSCHD*.

Then he began teaching, first at Portsmouth College of Art and later at Leicester, discussing on such topics as the Dadaist artist Duchamp ("a useful artistic model because he was always on the fringe of things, always showed a diversity of style") and the philosopher Wittgenstein, in an atmosphere which seems to have

been one of enthralling liberalism. These facts are perhaps less well known than those of his associations with Cornelius Cardew, the Scratch Orchestra, the Portsmouth Sinfonia, and, most prominently, with the experimentalist rock musician Brian Eno (on projects such as the *Obscure* record label) in the late Sixties and early Seventies. Even so, they provide perhaps the most useful key to the stance that Bryars takes.

Was he influenced in any positive way by Eno? "Without being big-headed, I think it was probably more the other way round. People noticed things like when I had my head shaved, so did he, and I think that extended to other things, too."

What about Cardew? "Yes, broadly I shared his politics—I guess I am more of a left-wing anarchist than anything else—but I couldn't go along with his

dogmatism." And the Portsmouth Sinfonia, the orchestra which achieved notoriety because its players were chosen for their inability to play the instruments they were given? "Oh, I am still theoretically part of that, though we haven't got together for some time now."

"The point there was to try as hard as possible to be serious. The results might have sounded funny, but it was just another way of looking at the music we played, and, I think, a very valuable one."

This ability to view things from unusual angles has always been a characteristic of Bryars's work, evident in his setting up and editing of the *Experimental Music Catalogue*, for instance, and in his music ever since the obscure *The Sinking of the Titanic* (1969) and the haunting *Jesus Blood Never Failed Me Yet*, which soon followed. It extends also to his operatic projects, when he was commissioned to write *Medea* for the Opéra de Lyon (the intended premiere at La Fenice fell through), his experience of the form in the theatre was limited to a *La Bohème* at the Met and a work by Gunther Schuller.

A new view of the genre was thus inevitable, and for good measure Bryars and his producer/librettist Robert Wilson gave the myth their own twist, by starting out from a viewpoint of sympathy with the character of the title. We may expect to be similarly newly enlightened in his opera in progress, on Jules Verne's story *Dr Ox's Experiment*.

Tonight's audience will hear an extract from that work, together with the two-piano, eight-hand, unapologetically minimalist *Out of Zaleski's Gazebo* (1977), *Les Fiançailles* (a fragment of 1983, from the music Bryars wrote for Wilson's collaborative opera, *Civil Wars*), *My First Homage* (1978, revised 1986), which features Bryars's own instrument as part of a jazz trio, and the First String Quartet of 1985, a work of high achievement.

Shot of Schoenberg

CONCERTS

COE/Abbado
Queen Elizabeth Hall

There was more from the "Reluctant Revolutionary" in the Chamber Orchestra of Europe's second concert, but perhaps only an unwilling quarter-turn, since even two performances of the three miniatures of 1910 could occupy no more than three minutes. However, this brief shot of Schoenberg, keenly but unaggressively played, counted for rather more than the half-hour of Brahms we had endured in an excessively relaxed, seemingly uninterested performance of the A major Serenade.

Perhaps the Schoenberg was needed to wake everybody up: certainly it shifted the concert into a different gear. Afterwards there was high tension, quick energy and a great, fat climax in Wolfgang Rihm's *Zweite Doppelgesang*, a 12-minute double concerto for clarinet and cello pitted against an orchestra of strings and a dark wind section weighted towards low-register bassoons and horns. However, it was surely not only the recent memory of the Schoenberg that made the piece appear at once over-extended and over-emphatic, except for one nice moment when a jerky motion in the soloists switched into the violins.

The concert then ended with an excellent account of the *Siegfried Idyll*, with soft-textured strings controlled by Claudio Abbado to give an impression of immediacy and newness, a dawn chill, to support the sensitive solo playing of the oboist Louise Pellerin, clarinetist Richard Hosford, horn player Jonathan Williams and trumpeter Terence Yeasey.

Earlier, in the Purcell Room, there had been more Schoenberg in one of a series of recitals coupling his songs with those of his predecessors in this case Mahler. Lucille Beer took a while to adapt her confident mezzo to this auditorium, but she still managed to capture much of the wonder and freshness of Schoenberg's op.2 songs, helped by ringing and attentive accompaniment from Iain Burnside.

The baritone James Meek was more rapidly at home, and began with a fine account of the rare and solitary Rilke song "Am Strand". The two singers then shared the less likeable Op.12 ballads. But these are difficult songs to bring off: the text does not invite the vigorous, even vituperative temper of Schoenberg's music at this almost atonal period, and the performers appeared to find, and to give, greater pleasure in their selections from Mahler's *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* songs.

Paul Griffiths

LSO/Rostropovich
Barbican Hall

It was the turn of the Barbican, with the London Symphony Orchestra and Mstislav Rostropovich, to draw Shostakovich's "Music from the Flames". To have been able to hear both the composer's violin concertos within the space of three days has been enough in itself to have heard Dmitri Sitkovetsky performing the Second was a bonus.

Although he is now based in London, the Russian violinist is still easier to track down on record than in the concert hall. He is not sold on his personality; indeed, he is scarcely sold at all in comparison with some players half his stature. But his musicianship has purchasing power enough: a rigorously searching intelligence, undistracted by any image of itself, uncompromised by the seduction of sound alone.

The Second Concerto is still more inward looking, still more austere than the First, and Sitkovetsky delineated it in strong, charcoal lines. The bow both led (at times more effectively than the baton) and listened minutely to every detail of the dark orchestration. Sitkovetsky's long, meticulously contoured accompanying of Sarah Brookes's slow movement flute solo was as characteristic of his playing as the resolute strength, the clean vertical downbows of the double-stopping in his deeply meditated cadenzas.

His playing was matched by the unmitigated intensity, after the interval, of Rostropovich's reading of Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony. It was a performance which had the feeling of something long moulded and worked over from deep inside. Balancing the sheer physical extremes to which he drove his players was a grasp of the work's cumulative energies which, by the end, was so musically and structurally satisfying that, for once, "meaning" was entirely subsumed into the musical experience with neither room nor relevance for the distraction of merely intellectual questioning.

Hilary Finch

Dresser out of the attic

THEATRE

Walks on Water
Hackney Empire

Rose English is a statuesque and precariously graceful lady, who gives the impression of having grown up in the attic of some remote country house, trying on fancy dress and performing to herself in front of a mirror.

When I saw her at the Bush, playing to a small studio audience, she struck me as one of comedy's hothouse blooms. But it takes more than a shrinking violet to expand her routine with a male chorus and a children's ballet company, and launch it on a boisterous Hackney audience, bang next door to a town hall draped in banners announcing "One in Five Unemployed".

The Hackney Empire evidently attracted her as a grand-scale enlargement of her attic: a glamorous gilt-encrusted relic, housing who knows what treasures in its copious entrails. *Walks on Water* seems to have been assembled from old property baskets and scenery docks, with English swishing about in an adaptable fishnet dress and principal boy lights, before going the whole hog in pearl-festooned *cache-caché* and ostrich-plumed headgear.

The title alerts you to the fact



Fancy: Rose English in fullest fig

that there may be no show at all. What you see is English telling herself a story and using the rest of the company to confirm her fantasy: for any independent contribution they make, they might not be there at all.

The chorus obediently echo whatever she tells them. "If only," she says, "I could be surrounded by water sprites"; or walking trees, or cleaners to mop up the mess. All her wishes are instantly granted. And when fancy requires her to fly or jump through flaming hoops, there is an acrobatic *alter ego* (Teresa Blake) to do the job for her. Blake also doubles as an instrumentalist, prompting English to exclaim, "I didn't know I could play the cello!"

Everything happens rather slowly and repetitiously, as English appears to be making things up as she goes along and then listening to the result, like a child telling herself a story. I began with feelings of impatience, and ended by eating out of her hand.

Irving Wardle

Lean pickings

Falstaff
Wilde Theatre,
Bracknell

Students of 1066 *And All That* will recall that Henry IV was a split king. Shakespeare divided him neatly across the middle, distributing the lewd riot and the sober politics in even helpings into each part, sensing that too much Falstaff, like too much of anything fatty, is bad for the system. Falstaff belongs within something greater.

On the other hand, Richard Williams and Andy Rashleigh, of the Oxford Stage Company, want a play that gathers Falstaff's triumphs, fall and offstage death into one evening, moved to do this by a laudable wish to give Bernard Bresslaw a large part for his large skills and other general largeness.

And so they extract the Gad's Hill robbery and its sequel, where Falstaff lies about his valour to the Prince: two civil wars are pressed into one, to show the fat knight's unlovely greed when recruiting and his formidable discretion on the battlefield. Roistering with the bawds and braggarts in Eastcheap follows, and then it is time for

Henry IV to die and the new King to shrug off his old companion.

The adaptation leaves out Mistress Quickly's line: "The King has killed his heart", but Bresslaw's numbed, almost voiceless attempt at bravado says it all. It matters not a scrap that two original rebellions are pressed into one, nor matters greatly that one character's dialogue is given to another. The important issues are this version's coherence and its worth. Too much is left out: too much of the surrounding scenes against which the Falstaff episodes stand in opposition; too much of the Falstaffian grace notes that give variety to the character. The roistering is thoroughly tiresome, except when Marcia Warren's Quickly is giving varied pace and tone to the lines.

Bresslaw can be funny showing the growth of an idea lighting up his wide face; his well-understood argument against valour (discretion being the better part of) gives the character and, briefly, the play, its core of honesty.

But, typical of a vehicle that leaves out half its innards, the production moves in fits and starts, and gives a rough ride.

Jeremy Kingston

Light entertainment

ROCK

Chris de Burgh
Wembley Arena

Chris de Burgh is patently a nice guy. Positive vibrations flowed freely from the stage as, without undue aggrandizement, he welcomed the first of five London audiences to his show. "I hope you enjoy the selections," he said without a trace of fervour or guile.

From a distance, the Argentinian-born de Burgh bears a passing resemblance to the late Keith Moon. But his personality and the music that he has composed and played since he was a teenager growing up in Wexford and a student of modern languages at Trinity College in Dublin, could not be less like those of the hell-raising drummer in the Who.

However, polite manners and a temperate outlook are simply not good grist to the rock 'n' roll mill, and de Burgh's music was the usual anodyne, dilute concoction; skilfully presented, but almost completely lacking in fibre.

The show began under a panoply of sweeping spotlights which raked across the audience with gibbering urgency. The huge and complex computer-operated lighting rig, which seemed to wobble into different positions like a vast spider resetting itself in the

darkness between numbers, delivered the most memorable moments of the two hour show.

One spectacularly synchronized change, which occurred between the sinister, quasi-religious ballad "The Risen Lord" and the more up-tempo "The Last Time I Cried" was a deal more entertaining than anything that Jean-Michel Jarre came up with during his recent, much-trumpeted Docklands extravaganza.

In a black baggy suit, white shirt and brown shoes, de Burgh strummed an acoustic guitar for the most part, while around him his five-piece band trotted out the music with calm, impersonal efficiency. Much of the material was taken from his latest album, *Flying Colours*, and if anything, the more palatable of the recent songs gave a nod in the direction of serious rock artists such as Peter Gabriel ("Tin Not Scared Any more") and Paul Simon ("A Night on the River").

But the irredeemable schmaltz of "The Lady in Red" was not far behind, nor the dated sub-progressive pop of his earliest (minor) British hit, "Don't Play the Ferryman", nor the vaguely comical morality tale of a card game between God and the Devil ("Spanish Train"), let alone the singularly ghastly piece of cabaret sleaze, "Patricia The Stripper", which was accorded the best reception of all.

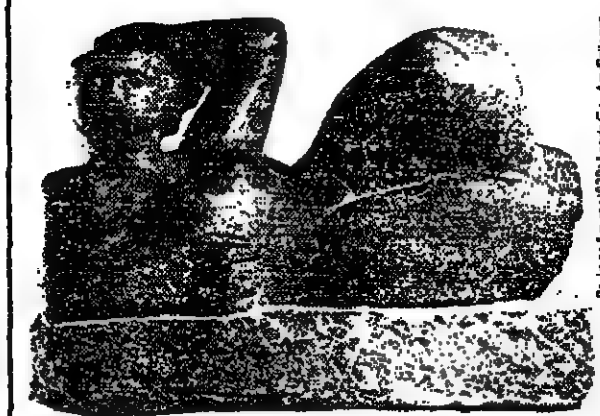
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FRIDAY PAGE

Newton's first law of nudity

Photographer
Helmut Newton
explains to
Catherine Bennett
why he is proud to
be called
a pornographer

Helmut Newton took off his jacket. Would he be kind enough to remove his T-shirt? "I'm not in such good shape," Newton told *The Times*'s photographer. "If you don't mind, I don't want to do that." What about his trousers? "My pants off?" Newton laughed, then stopped. "I'm a photographer, I'm not a model! If you want to show my double chin, show it, but I'm not taking my clothes off."

From another photographer the indignation might have been predicted. But Helmut Newton has made his name out of flesh. Certainly he has other talents: connoisseurs of photography admire the steely opulence of his style, his theatrical portraiture, his thrilling insights into the ways of the ludicrously rich. Only he could persuade one of the world's 10 best dressed women, Tina Chow, to rope herself to the bar of her husband's restaurant. "It's the way he uses narrative, particularly in groups, the way he brings things out about people by getting them to act out a story," says Terence Pepper, curator of photographs at the National Portrait Gallery, where Newton is currently on show. "He's one of the most important portrait photographers of the Eighties."

But to the amateur, Newton is best known for his bodies — of the tall Amazon species now showing at another London gallery in an exhibition called *New Nudes*. Here is all the familiar Newtonian apparatus, annexed from the fantasies of male amateur photographers: the suspenders and whips and dogs and horses and husbands, the voracious goddesses played on leather sofas, their only modesty a pair of stilettos...

Even as a fashion photographer in places such as *Vogue* and *Elle*, Newton was renowned for hoisting up skirts, removing knickers — "that's when they invented the term porno chic," he says proudly. Since he gave up fashion, in 1985, he has been concentrating on the nudes and portraits typified by these exhibitions — although it is not always easy to see the "enormous difference" which Newton says divides the two.

Charlotte Rampling, like Helmut Newton, is not a model. Yet she is naked for her portrait. So, to varying degrees, are Grace Jones, Elsa Peretti, Loulou de la Falaise and other young women. There are pictures of men here, but only one has been asked to take down his trousers. "I'm old fashioned," said Newton, having arrived, jauntily and tanned, in the midst of his exhibition. He gazed at his own work with transparent



The artist in the flesh: Helmut Newton at the National Portrait Gallery, with two examples of the immodest style that he has annexed from the fantasies of male amateur photographers

pleasure. "I just happen to like women more than men — naked, anyway. I'm an admirer of women, otherwise I wouldn't photograph them all my life would I? I started photographing my little girlfriends when I was 14 years old."

It is a charming idea, this thralldom which has endured from his early years in Berlin, where he was apprenticed at 16 to a woman photographer, survived his fashion work, and flourishes now in an atmosphere of American adulation and cash. Best of all, he likes to work in women's bedrooms — "it's interesting". But why must he so often subjugate his heroines: tie them to chairs, chain them up, strap them inside a surgical corset? "When I was young I found it sexually very interesting."

"The other thing I find it's a very old theme... bondage is something that has been used in the last 200 years by painters. I think the moment that photography was invented, a couple of years later they started photographing naked women. The mo-

ment the Polaroid was invented, what did people do with it? It's the perfect way of not going to the drugstore to show them your dirty pictures!" I said I had never thought of this. "You're kidding," exclaimed Newton, then louder, "you're kidding!"

So photography is intrinsically sexual. It is only natural to strip your subject. But one thing Newton likes to emphasize, between his anecdotes and hefty, Texan jokes ("... as the actress said..."), is how he never pushes women into anything.

Persuasion, he says, is a weak point. "I'm not a good persuader, if somebody says 'I'm not going to do that,' I say 'OK'." If they say 'no', I take it as a fact. "He is outraged by the graceless demand of Annie Leibowitz, the American photographer, that he display certain parts of his body — 'She said 'do it, Helmut!'". He refused. "I don't think it is a particularly important part of what I'm about."

So what is important about the

left breast of Paloma Picasso, who is a jewellery designer? "From the waist up Paloma is made like a beautiful ivory statue, she's got beautiful breasts, she's got marvelous shoulders and arms," said Newton, very earnest.

"You know, there's one thing I've never made a woman look silly, I've never caricatured a woman."

Some visitors to his exhibition, having seen a lurid display of (a fully clothed) Bubbles Rothermere's legs and smudgy red lips, might disagree. "Well, Bubbles Rothermere looks the way I photographed her," said Newton, adding that the viscountess had asked him to take her portrait. One of the remarkable aspects of Newton's recent career is the eagerness of the rich and powerful to participate in his success.

Tina Chow dutifully bought her own bindings — "because she has impeccable taste, she came back with a perfect piece of rope," said Newton, cackling. Claus von Bülow collaborated in a leather

jacket. Michael Caine and his wife put on full evening dress before lounging on sunbeds by their swimming pool, wearing expressions of otiose complacency. Other rich people posed with their ranked staff, or smirked among their possessions. "He is aware of their decadence and shortcomings," Pepper says.

Newton is well set up in Monte Carlo. He is a friend of the Chows, of the Caines, of Paloma Picasso. He will concede that the picture of Bubbles Rothermere is "unflattering", then boast — "she adores me". Humble, unknown people do not "interest" this photographer or his employers in places such as *Vanity Fair*; nor will they pay \$15,000 to have their photographs taken. "I'm interested in what famous people look like," he said, "even if I had a fascinating looking Aunt Agatha, I don't think anybody would want to see my aunt."

But Newton is confident that anybody would want to look at his silky, anonymous nudes and their partners, whom he proudly

presents as air hostesses, nurses, bankers — "the guy reading the paper is big in real estate". Some come from Berlin, some from Los Angeles. The German ones offer clues such as braided plaits and monocles.

The Americans offer themselves to Cadillacs and bondage. "To me it shows where these women are coming from," he said. "Maybe nobody else does, but as long as I understand, that's all that matters."

Newton says he enjoys photography because he can "hop" from one subject to another. From fashion, to portraits, to pornography. After years of restraint on *Vogue*, he wanted to see if he could go further, "make the sexual side harder". The results now cost £1,000 a print. "There is pornography on a very cheap level which you can find in bad magazine stores," Newton said, "and then you have the great pornography of artists. A lot of

famous writers have written about pornography under other names, a lot of famous sculptors and painters have done pornography under their own names... so why shouldn't I if I feel like it? I mean, nobody's paid me for it."

Oddly for a pornographer, Newton professes indifference to the effects of his work on others — insists, even, that it leaves him quite cold. "Maybe it will titillate me 10 years later. While I do it, the sittings are very, very difficult. They are more, much more complicated than doing a portrait."

How? Newton laughed extravagantly. "You take me for dinner and I'll tell you all about it." More laughter. "I'm an expensive date." Newton asked if the interview was over. "Did you like me?" he demanded. "Good." He agreed to photographs, at first good-humouredly, then with increasing impatience. He complained about the cold. He stamped his feet. It turned out that he had urgent business: "I want to go shopping. I want to buy a telefax, a typewriter, an Armani jacket!"

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habitat

Gifts from the east

The department at Liberty with perhaps the most Eastern promise is Oriental Textiles in the basement, Sarah Jane Checkland writes.

Here in the intimate den of antique dealer Marilyn Garrow you almost expect to be passed a bookish pipe. Instead, at prices from £400 to £1,500, she offers you Chinese court robes in indigo, cadmium red and black. Many are embroidered in the complex "forbidden" stitch, so called, not as commonly believed because the Emperor wanted to keep it for himself, but because the sewing was making worker-children blind, and the Dowager Empress banned it.

There are Kashmiri shawls from which the famous paisley pattern derives, at £800 upwards, as well as paisleys themselves, at £500. Finally, for collectors of unusual shoes, there are a selection of tiny satin embroidered slippers from £30 to £90. One pair, only about two inches long, was worn by some poor aristocratic young lady whose feet had been bound.

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and 8.30pm, readers of *The Times* can indulge their love of the fine arts during an exclusive shopping evening in Liberty stores nationwide. All guests will be greeted with a glass of wine and a Liberty gift and are eligible for a prize draw. In the Regent Street branch, guests will be able to meet *Times* experts, among them saleroom correspondent Sarah Jane Checkland.

A number of authors will be

signing copies of their latest books. They include Kaffie Fassett (*Kaffie Fassett at the V&A*) and Philip Howard, literary editor of *The Times* (*Word-watching*). Melynn Bragg, author of *Rich: The Life of Richard Burton*, will be there on December 6; and Trevor Brooking, co-author of *100 Great British Footballers*, on November 29. *The Times* chess correspondent, Raymond Keene, will be taking on challengers and signing copies of the new edition of *Batsford Chess Openings*, of which he is co-author.

Visitors to the Regent Street store in London will also be eligible for reduced price tickets (£2) to the Henry Moore and Toulouse-Lautrec exhibitions at the Royal Academy on November 29 and December 6.

To apply for tickets, complete the coupon below, stating the branch you wish to visit and ticking the box for the evening on which you prefer to attend. Tickets are limited to one per application, and admit two. Send the completed coupon to *The Times* at Liberty, PO Box 175, Canshalton, Surrey SM5 2WA to arrive no later than Thursday, November 24. We will try to issue invitations for the evening of your preference, but reserve the right to allocate another date if maximum numbers are reached.

The shopping evenings will be at these Liberty stores: Regent Street, London; New Bond Street, London; Trinity Street, Cambridge; Burgate, Canterbury; The Promenade, Cheltenham; Bridge Street, Chester; George Street, Edinburgh; Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Market Street, Guildford; Church Street, Kingston upon Thames; King Street, Manchester; London Street, Norwich; High Street, Oxford; Catherine Street, Salisbury; Derygate, York.

Barbara Amiel is on holiday

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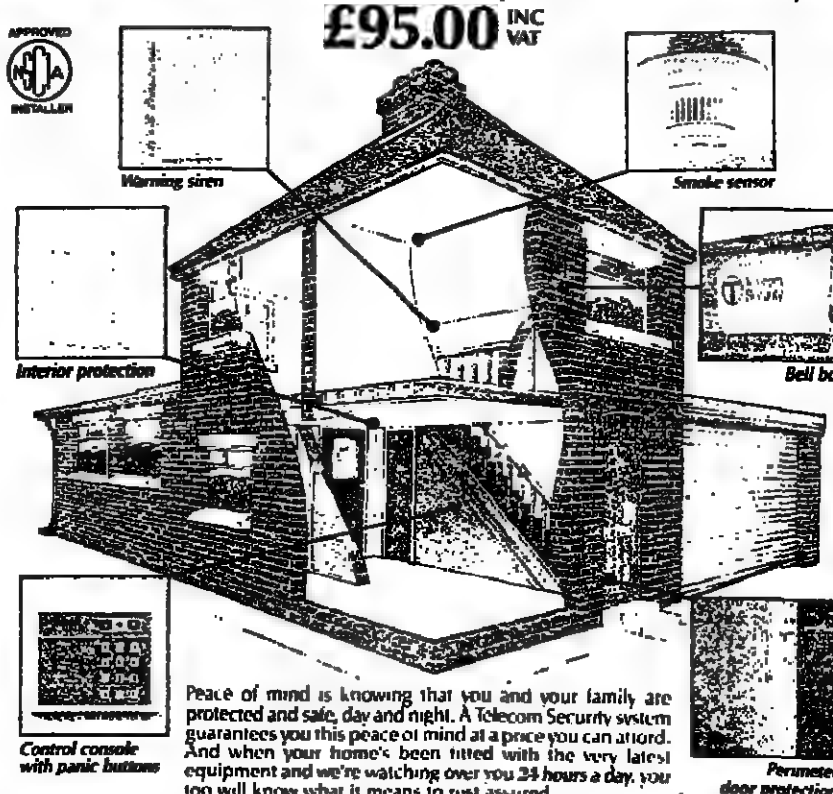
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**Compiled by Peter Dear
and Jane Rackham**

ITV LONDON

4.30 Scooby Doo. Cartoon series (7). **4.45 FreeTime.** Andi Peters and Asa Maxwell find out what is like to be at a letterbox on a school; and there are items on an adventure holiday on Drake's Island off Plymouth; and how some young footballers raised sponsorship for their team

5.15 Backstairs.

5.45 News. Fiona Armstrong

6.00 LWT News. 6.15 **Friday Now** presented by Pam Ridley

7.00 Family Fortunes. Game show introduced by Les Dennis

7.30 A Kind of Living. Comedy series starring Les Dennis, Griffiths and Frances De La Tour

8.00 Beauty and the Beast. Cathy and Vincent have to come to the assistance of a compromised investigator who is framed by a woman with whom he fell in love.

8.30 A Taste of Death. The final episode and Delphine places together the clues surrounding the death of Death

9.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Carol Barnes **10.30 LWT News** and weather

9.30 The London Programme presented by Tim Phillips investigates the implications of the Home Secretary's announcement that the government is setting up a psychology unit to help police cope with the daily tensions of their job

1.05 The Evening Standard Drama Awards '88 introduced by Melvyn Bragg. Rex Harrison, Ian McKellen, Janet Suzman and Diana Rigg are among the stars at London's Guildhall to present the prizes

10.35am Hunter. Hunter and McCall are on the trail of a hit-man ordered to kill drug dealers by his runce-running boss

11.00 Night Network

11.00 Baseball '88. The LA Dodgers vs the New York Mets

1.00 PM Morning News. Ends at

CHANNEL 4

- **6:00 Channel 4 News** with Peter Sissons and Nik Gowing. **Weather.**
- **6:30 Book Choice.** Ede Keadouire reviews Bonanzh Brutto's autobiography *Daughter of the East*. (Oracle)
- **7:00 Irish Real.** This fifth programme in the series explores Irish attitudes to the man-made environment in Ireland.
- **7:30 The Golden Girls.**
- **8:30 A Houseful of Plants.** Indoor gardening advice.
- **9:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?** Acclaimed comedy series. Among the guests are Griff Fiyfe Jones.
- **9:30 The Last Resort.** Jonathan Ross's guests include Mel Smith, Helmut Newton and Tiffany.
- **10:00 Hellfire to Paradise** with, among others, the Pogues and Michelle Shocked.
- **10:30am Film: Dark Night of the Scarecrow** (1981) starring Charles Durning. A made-for-television thriller that a group of vigilantes who are murdered one by one after killing a retarded man they thought guilty of assaulting a young girl. Directed by Frank de

[illegible]

THE EDELSON FUR SALON

Selfridges

Jim Morris, seen above with Jean Marie Evans as Nancy, may not be the spitting image of Ronald Reagan but his impersonation of the US president is one of the best (BBC2, 9.30pm)

sportingly rejects a suggestion from its chairman to stiffen the ranks by co-opting out-

● Jim Morris is the best Ronald Reagan impersonator I have seen, *Spitting Image* (who never got him quite right) please note. Morris looks nothing like Reagan and is about 40 years too young, but the voice and gestures are absolutely bang on. Morris is the star of *Rap Master Ronnie* (BBC2, 9.30pm), a satirical review (and revue) of the Reagan years written by Garry Trudeau, creator of the *Doonesbury* comic strip and, with Robert Altman, the man behind the political spoof *Tanner*. When the heavyweight historians move in on the Reagan years, they should not ignore shows like *Rap Master Ronnie*, which are rich evidence of popular attitudes.

Running through the tape, they may well wonder about the so-called Great Communicator who consistently fumbled for words and was frequently wrong on the most elementary facts. But perhaps

there is no paradox. Perhaps the American people wanted reassuring answers rather than smart ones and this is what Ronnie gave them. One thing is sure. Reagan was a great gift to the satirists and their life will be duller without him. Unless George Bush undergoes a character transplant between now and inauguration day, he looks like being a very poor substitute.

● **Western Approach** (BBC2, 8.00pm) is an engagingly dotty film, narrated with a suitably light touch by Miles Kingston. It's a corker looking at the relationship between the British and the Australian Aborigines. The joke is that while the Aussies are a pretty fair side, Alderney, with a population of only 2,000, has a job even getting a team out. In true amateur spirit, Alderney

sportingly rejects a suggestion from his chairman to stiffen the ranks by excluding outsiders. The chairman is Alderney's most famous resident, John Arlott. Asked his opinion of the local skipper, Ray Parkin, Arlott says: "He can't bat or bowl or catch, but he's a hell of a nice chap." Parkin's pre-match promise is that they will play their cricket the only way they know how, "which is not very well". To Parkin's consternation, the visitors win the toss and ask Alderney to bat. Realizing that with his batting, the match will all too quickly be over, Parkin persuades the Aborigine skipper to change his mind. After all, a quarter of the island's population have turned out to watch. The game is cheerfully one-sided, with the Aborigines hitting sizes and the locals hitting catches, and a great time is had by all.

Peter Waymark

Wonderland revisited

► The illustrator Anthony Browne, whose pictures justify yet another edition of *Alice in Wonderland*, explains in this week's edition of *Treasure Islands* (Radio 4, 11.47am) what he and his 99 predecessors — the total is probably dramatic licence — had to do before putting pen to paper. They had to shut Tennyson out of their minds. The illustration here indicates how well he has succeeded. It might also help to explain why the volume (published by Julia MacRae Books) has just won the Emily Award for the year's best children's book. Ideally, *Treasure Islands* could have done with 60 minutes or so to say anything like justice to its examination of the ways *Alice* has been handled (and mis-handled) or interpreted (and misinterpreted) over the years. But even in less than 15

vision version of *Alice* that some critics interpreted as the product of the psychedelic Sixties. Miller does not go along with this, insisting that his framing device was not Freudian but Wordsworthian (the Immortality Ode). I should have liked to hear more of the theories of the uncredited essayist who concludes that Alice represents the symbolic equation: girl equals phallus, and believes that the Adventures in Wonderland allegorically chart a trip back into a mother's womb.

● Talking of wombs, it is the empty one of Yerma (Radio 3, 9.10pm) in Lorca's peasant tragedy that gives Brid Brennan yet another chance to show us how well she can conceive extreme anguish. In Frank McGuinness's version, this cruel play loses nothing by being transplanted from Spanish soil to Irish, and benefits from Henry Daggs's songs.

Peter Duvall

Henry Dagg's sad songs.
Peter D'Avella

Radio

7 (medium wave) Stared on
HF (In London, 104.8; the
souths, 96.4; the North, 98.8;
coast Wales, Avon and Somerset,
8.7; and central Scotland 98.9)
news on the half-hour from
1.30am until 2.30pm, then at
0.30 and 12.30 midnight
2.30 Adrian John 7.00 Simon
Jayo 3.30 Simon Bates 12.30
Newsbeat (Ian Parkinson)
2.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve
Fright 5.30 Newsbeat (Ian
Parkinson) 6.45 Single Out 7.00
Jeff Young's Big Beat 8.00 Hey
Erradi! 9.30 In Concert featuring
Who and Wonder Stuff 10.30
the Friday Rock Show with Tommy
12.30 2.00 Richard
Dinner

Radio 2

W (medium wave).
 News on the hour (except
 6:00pm)
 6:00 Children in Need 7:00
 Memories of You with Chris Ellis
 8:00 Friday Night Is Music
 Night live from St David's Hall,
 Cardiff 8:30 Nigel Ogden with
 the Organist Entertains 10:00 The
 Golden Years with Alan Keith
 11:30 Old Stagers (5) Cavan
 Connor 11:40 Peter Dickson
 presents Nightcap 1:00am Alan
 Dickson Presents Nightride
 2:00-4:00 A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

10th News: World News 7:58 24 Hours 7:58 World
 News 8:00 24 Hours 8:00 World News 8:00
 11th News: Music Now 8:45, English A
 12th News: The World 9:00 World News
 9:00 24 Hours 9:00 World News 9:00
 13th News: Today 9:30 Financial News 10:00
 Sports Roundup 10:45 Seven News 10:45
 14th News: World News 10:58 24 Hours
 10:58 News 10:58 24 Hours 11:00 World
 News 11:00 24 Hours 11:00 World News
 11:00 24 Hours 11:00 World News 11:00
 15th News: World News 12:45 Sports
 Roundup 13:00 World News 12:58 24 Hours
 12:58 News 12:58 24 Hours 13:00 World
 News 13:00 24 Hours 13:00 World News
 13:00 24 Hours 13:00 World News 13:00
 16th News: Outlook, opening with World News
 1:45, 24 Hours Now 3:00 News Roundup
 3:00 24 Hours 3:00 World News 3:00
 17th News: World 4:00 World News 4:00
 News 4:00 24 Hours 4:00 World News 4:00
 18th News: Britain 4:15 Salmon in Action 4:45
 19th News: World News 4:58 24 Hours
 4:58 News 4:58 24 Hours 5:00 World
 News 5:00 24 Hours 5:00 World News 5:00
 20th News: 5:15 English by Radio 5:45
 21st News: Radio 6:30 Radio 6:45
 22nd News: World News 6:58 24 Hours
 6:58 News 6:58 24 Hours 7:00 World
 News 7:00 24 Hours 7:00 World News 7:00
 23rd News: World News 7:58 24 Hours 7:58
 News 7:58 24 Hours 8:00 World News 8:00
 24th News: World News 8:58 24 Hours 8:58
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 25th News: World News 9:58 24 Hours 9:58
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 26th News: World News 10:58 24 Hours 10:58
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 27th News: World News 11:58 24 Hours 11:58
 News 11:58 24 Hours 12:00 World News 12:00
 28th News: World News 12:45 Recalling the
 19th News 12:45 News Roundup 1:00 Outlook
 1:00 24 Hours 1:00 World News 1:00
 29th News: World News 1:45 24 Hours 1:45
 News 1:45 24 Hours 2:00 World News 2:00
 30th News: World News 2:45 Recalling the
 19th News 2:45 News Roundup 3:00 Outlook
 3:00 24 Hours 3:00 World News 3:00 News
 3:00 24 Hours 3:15 The World Today 3:30
 The World Today 3:45 Memorabilia
 3:55 The World Today 4:00 The World
 Today 4:15 The World Today 4:30 London
 Mail 4:45

Radio C

8.55 **Weather**, followed by **News**
Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert:
Mendelssohn (Overture to
The Fair Melusine: LSO
under Claudio Abbado);
Bach (Concerto for violin
and piano in C minor:
Alexander G. Shostakov
Fields directed by Heinz
Hoffler (oboe) with Gidon
Kremer (violin)
7.30 News
7.38 Morning Concert (cont'd):
Ibert (Overture du fête:
French National RO under
Jean Martinon); Liszt
(Concerto in F: Musica
Antiqua Cologne under
Reinhard Goebel);
Beethoven (Symphony No 1
in C: London Classical

8-30 **With Grammy**
8-35 **News**
Composers of the Week:
Mozart: Art's in cis! (K
538); LPO under Patac
Meng with Jennifer Vyryan
(soprano); Adagio in E
minor (K 540); Claudio Arrau
(piano); Symphony No 41 in
C (K 551); Columbia SO
under Bruno Walter
9-30 **Mainly Mesques and**
Dances: Bernard Stevens
(Fantasia on Giles Farnaby's
Dreame Op 22; Michael
Finnissey, piano); William

ens

Michael Finnis, piano; Alan Bullard (Dances for Men); Quartet: Vega Wind Quintet; Vaughan Williams Job - A Masque for Dancing; LPO under Vernon Handley; Robin Holloway Music for Organ, Op. 65; Christopher (Harris, original); Roger Septeto (Antother Part of the Forest: English Echoes); Wirted Josephs and the English (English Echoes); Paul Patterson (Comedy for five winds: Vega Wind Quintet); Edward Elgar Pledge Pledge on the name Geraldine, Sonata in one movement Op. 55; Michael Finnis, piano; Adrien Nais (The Wind and the Waves); LPO under Malcolm Arnold; Welsh Symphony Orchestra; Loos Frimous concerto Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2 in G minor Op 63; and Debussy's Nocturne in E-flat major; Volokant (violin);

Radio 4

1.17 (long wave) (n) Stereo on
VHF

5.55 Shipping Forecast

6.00 News Briefing; Weather
6.10 Farming Today **6.25**
Prayer for the Day (s)

6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.05,
7.30, 8.00 News **6.55**,
7.25 Weather 7.30
Yesterday in Parliament
8.57 Weather

9.00 News

9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue
Lawley's guest is Bob
Hoskins (s) (r)

9.45 Feedback: John Wilson,
Controller of Cultural Policy
BBC, talks about the
restrictions on the BBC's
coverage of Northern
Ireland and policy

10.00 News; International

Abstract

10.45 Daily Service (s)
11.00 News: Analysis: Stuart
Simon reports on Britain's
trade gap which seems
likely to rise to £13 billion
this year
11.47 Treasure Islands (see
Choice)
12.00 News: You and Yours
12.25 The Food Programme with
Derek Cooper examines the
theory that you can get

2.30 Shipping Forecast
News: Woman's Hour: Today's programme is dedicated to the children in Need Appeal. Black Adder (Rowan Atkinson) and Baldrick (Tony Robinson) join the Woman's Hour team and two women back in time, refusing to release them until listeners pay a ransom to the appeal.
3.00 Journey to the Centre of the Earth: An exposé of child prostitution in the 19th century, an film on 17th-century sex and an interview with John Shakespeare (John Sessions). To pledge money ring 0272 373737.
3.30 The American Revolution by Don Taylor, with Bernard Hepton. Part seven of a 12-part series about Oliver Cromwell (a).
4.00 News
4.05 All in the Mind: Professor Anthony Clare looks at the working of the mind (a) (v)
FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.5Khz
Radio 2: 693Khz/433.00MHz/3Khz
Radio 3: 90.9Khz/433.00MHz/3Khz
Radio 4: 1584Khz/93.7Khz/433.00MHz/3Khz
Radio 5: 1584Khz/93.7Khz/433.00MHz/3Khz
World S: 458Khz/220MHz/VHF 84.5: World S

285m;1080kHz/275m;VHF-88-90.2
VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/
1515m;VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/
m;VHF95.8. Greater London Radio:
m;MF64kHz/463m.

One year after the tragedy of King's Cross, a day of honour for the 20 faces of bravery

By Andrew Morgan and Mark Ellis

Bravery awards were yesterday presented to 20 fire officers who fought the King's Cross blaze, which broke out 12 months ago today and claimed the lives of 31 people, including that of Station Officer Colin Townsley, who was awarded a posthumous Commendation.

Five other officers received Commendations and 14 were awarded Letters of Congratulations from the Chief Officer, Mr Gerald Clarkson. Four of the Commendations were for men based at Soho.

Tributes were paid to the many officers who had attended the blaze.

Chief Officer Clarkson described himself as a "hard taskmaster" who expected the highest standards from his officers.

"I am proud to say that my expectations were not only achieved, but surpassed on that night," he said. The award decisions had been a "painstaking task".

Mrs Linda Townsley, Mr Townsley's widow, and their two daughters, Sally, aged 19, and Sarah, aged 12, were too upset to attend the ceremony at County Hall, central London. His parents, Mr and Mrs James Townsley, accepted the award to generous applause from the 200 guests.

Officer Townsley, aged 35, from Soho's red watch, had directed passengers away from the fire after the "lashover". He had delayed his escape to assist a woman along the St Pancras subway.

The citation mentioned his scant regard for his own safety and recorded that the award was for "heroism, supreme humanity and outstanding leadership".

Afterwards Mr Townsley's father said: "We are very proud on this emotional day, but it is comforting to see so many men from Soho here. In some ways, the awards should have been made to all members of the brigade, considering what they face every time the bell goes."

A Commendation was awarded to Fireman Robert Moulton, aged 39, also based at Soho, who dragged Officer Townsley from the blaze. Mr Moulton and others tried to revive the officer and the citation recorded his "professional conduct, bravery, courage and determination".

Fireman Paul Hale, aged 40, also of Soho, was awarded a Commendation for bravery, courage and determination after he went into the fire and helped a badly burnt person to safety before re-entering. Hallucinating and exhausted, he came out but again went back.

Sub Officer Vernon Trefry, aged 34, from Soho station, also won the award for bravery after he crawled down the Easton subway in intense heat to fight the fire. He replenished his breathing apparatus before returning to the blaze.

Commendations were given to Assistant Divisional Officer John Shore, aged 54, the former station commander at Easton and now retired, and to Assistant Chief Officer Joe Kennedy, aged 49, north-east area commander.



Station Officer Colin Townsley, 35: Heroism, supreme humanity and outstanding leadership.



Fireman Sean Clarke, 30: We managed to get within two or three steps from the bottom.



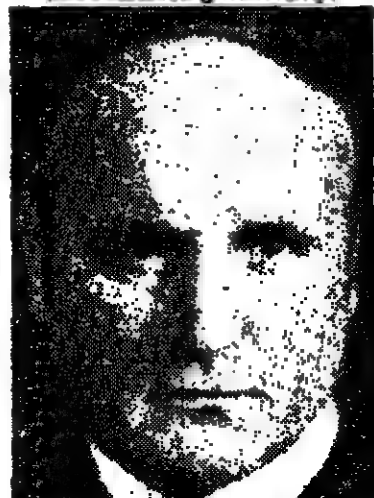
Fireman Stewart Butts, 25: There is no getting away from what happened that night.



Fireman Joseph Boland, 30: Found a woman clinging to the wall, screaming "save me".



Temporary Fireman David Flanagan, 27: We ran for our lives through the darkness and screams.



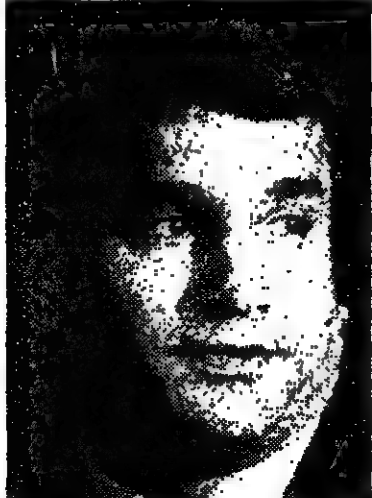
Assistant Chief Officer Joe Kennedy, 49: Memories as vivid now as they were on the night of the fire.



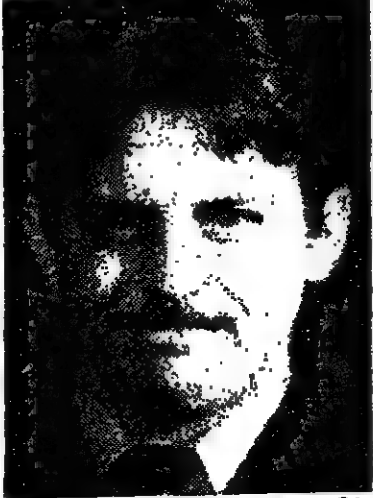
Fireman John Edgar, 23: The heat was unbelievably intense; I helped remove people to safety.



Fireman William Cordell, 30: It was one of those jobs that you will never forget.



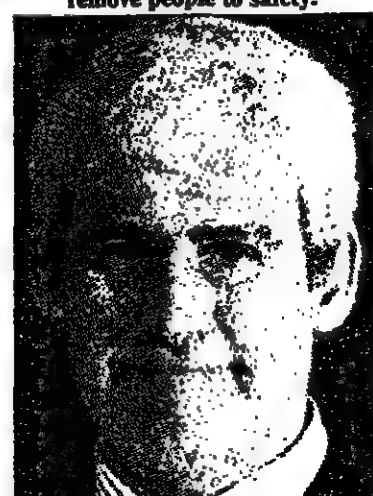
Fireman Manjit Singh, 34: The strongest memory is women shouting for us to save them.



Fireman David Priestman, 31: Every few minutes we were blasted with scalding air.



Sub Officer Vernon Trefry, 34: The entire night is in my mind like a continual video recording.



Assistant Divisional Officer John Shore, 54: Memories of people dying underneath my feet.



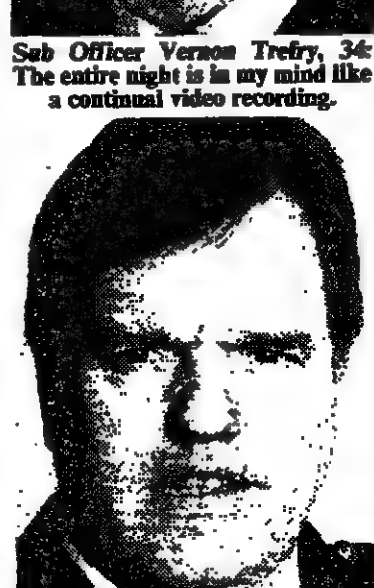
Fireman Steve Bell, 23: Lasting impression of the heat sapping all my strength.



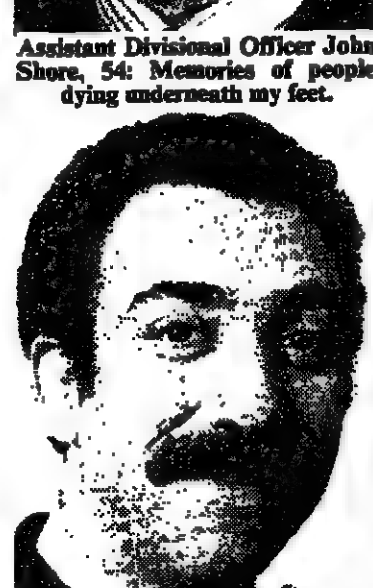
Fireman Robert Moulton, 39: Remembers crawling along and feeling Colin Townsley's helmet.



Fireman David Smith, 32: There was a sudden rush of people, some of whom were burnt.



Station Officer Peter Osborne, 40: A man emerged from the smoke suffering from burns.



Temporary Station Officer Roger Demotte, 40: People will bear the scars for a long time, if not life.



Station Officer Alan Pryke, 34: People were shouting at me to get an ambulance.



Temporary sub-officer Roger Bell, 44: Assured the police we were in no danger down below the fire.



Fireman Paul Hale, 40: Repeatedly returned to inferno before collapsing from exhaustion.

UK to support Bush on deficit

Continued from page 1

would be striving to help Mr Bush and his team realize their aims in world affairs.

Asked about the qualities of Mr Bush she said that he was no stranger to her. It was not a new relationship. She had known him and the way in which he worked. He was thorough and well briefed. "It will be a very calm and measured approach. It will be based on what he firmly believes will be the right thing to do. I am sure it will be alright. It will be good."

Mrs Thatcher declined to give a commitment that the Bank of England would intervene to prevent a further fall in the dollar. She understood that Mr Bush had to take account of the position of Congress but was sure that he would tackle the deficit in a calm and measured way.

She said that Mr Bush had now emerged from the shadow of the "great man who has been President" and would pursue existing policies in his own way and in his own style.

Mr Bush has been under pressure because of his election pledge not to cut taxes, but in a series of nationwide television interviews yesterday Mrs Thatcher said that people should stop "badgering" or harrying him. She said that she had not the slightest doubt that the new government would tackle the deficit in a responsible and managed way, taking account of the position of the US Congress.

Mrs Thatcher's remarks came before her first talks with Mr Bush as president-elect. They met for 90 minutes. Also present were Mr Dan Quayle, the vice-president-elect, and Mr James Baker, who will be the new Secretary of State.

Mr Bush, who had watched Mrs Thatcher's television interviews, told her that he would tackle the deficit and said that he endorsed the line she had taken.

Mrs Thatcher turned on one reporter who referred disparagingly to Mr Bush as being a loyal follower of Mr Reagan. She snapped: "Loyalty to your principles, loyalty to your country, loyalty to the President — those are three major pluses."

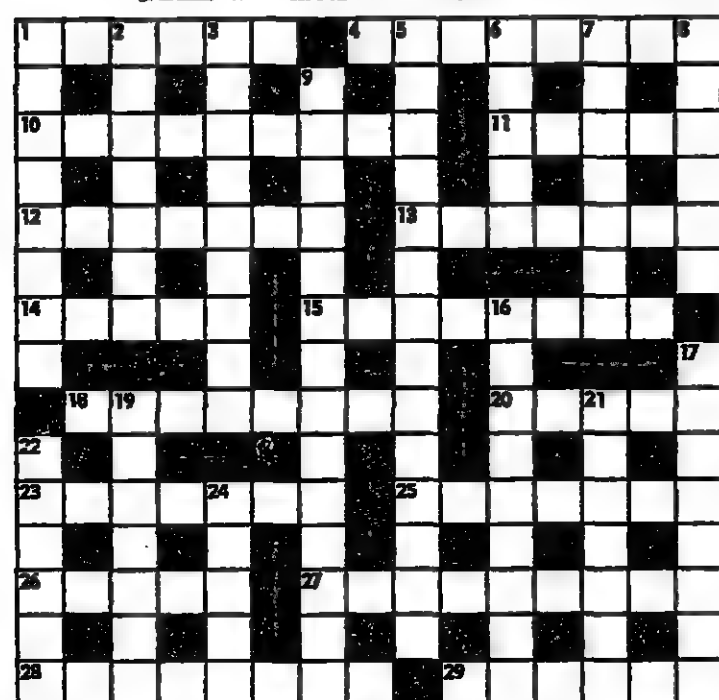
Mr Bush had given loyalty in abundance and was entitled to expect it from others. "Don't run down loyalty to me. I would like to see more of it."

British sources said after the talks that she had been pleased by his strong commitment to continuing close consultations with the Nato allies.

Their talks also covered the Middle East and East-West relations, with Mr Bush saying that he was looking forward to his meeting Mr Gorbachev next month.

Throughout her interviews Mrs Thatcher said that the US economy was strong and continued to perform well. It did not help the currency constantly to comment on each and every movement, she said.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,830



ACROSS

- 1 Make a systematic collection for Buffalo Bill — he's out of condition (6).
- 4 Promoted ahead of one's time (8).
- 10 Italian course about dubious form of Latin verse (9).
- 11 No society to preserve this ancient language (5).
- 12 Garment with a shirt-tail in its proper place (7).
- 13 Type of complex puzzle-solver (7).
- 14 Tumbled to a chap's affected pronunciation (5).
- 15 Came home belatedly from place in the sun (8).
- 18 Musical progression to note in a production of "Foggy" (8).
- 20 Dark-skinned round melon, without rind originally (5).
- 23 Tactless sort of broadcast (7).
- 25 Some rash German, perhaps (7).
- 26 Result of eating pudding in the gallery (5).
- 27 Sounds a smart fellow, one with pride in the plant (9).
- 28 25, for example, is in breach of the peace (8).
- 29 Counter-coup of a kind succeeded, it is reported (6).

DOWN

- 1 It carries eccentrics to the River Dart (8).
- 2 Noisy unit? Credible, perhaps, when regiment is away (7).
- 3 Eve at sea? (5,4).
- 5 Medical diet for lawyers who had to eat here? (7,7).
- 6 Go round for a missing suit (5).
- 7 Place for main pilot's compartment (7).
- 8 No need for him to work to rule (6).
- 9 Getting together on the point where Carigan begins? (8-6).
- 16 Distinctive feature of Mark and Hazel's descendant (9).
- 17 Released from a disreputable end, perhaps (8).
- 19 Restricts Army grub (7).
- 21 All one got to build a boat on the Mediterranean? (7).
- 22 Cleaned bike round top of pedal (6).
- 24 Make a deduction for fashionable animal skin, say (5).

Concise crossword, page 22

WORD-WATCHING

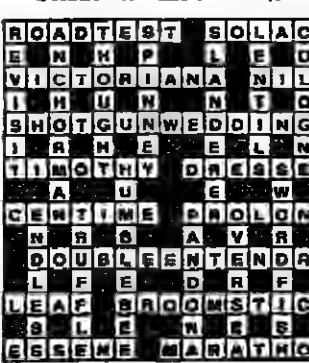
A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- MUNDUNGUS**
a. Scungilli's gunap
b. A rank-smelling tobacco
c. A musical costume
- STICOEPHALIC**
a. Having the head covered
b. Tortoise-like
c. Lascivious, Priapic
- DANCETTE**
a. A burlesque dancer
b. A zigzag line
c. A ballet solo
- ACEY-DEUCEY**
a. Tip top
b. A gambling game
c. Midding

Answers on page 22

Solution to Puzzle No 17,829



WEATHER

Much of England and Wales will start mild and cloudy with showers. During the day it will become drier and brighter, but noticeably colder. This colder weather will affect Scotland throughout, where the South will be dry and fairly sunny, but the North will have some wintry showers. Northern Ireland should be dry with a fair amount of sunshine, and not too cold. Outlook: dry, cold, with frost in many areas at night.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	20-25	S	1-2	
Algeria	21-26	S	1-2	
Algeria	22-27	S	1-2	
Algeria	23-28	S	1-2	
Algeria	24-29	S	1-2	
Algeria	25-30	S	1-2	
Algeria	26-31	S	1-2	
Algeria	27-32	S	1-2	
Algeria	28-33	S	1-2	
Algeria	29-34	S	1-2	
Algeria	30-35	S	1-2	
Algeria	31-36	S	1-2	
Algeria	32-37	S	1-2	
Algeria	33-38	S	1-2	
Algeria	34-39	S	1-2	
Algeria	35-40	S	1-2	
Algeria	36-41	S	1-2	
Algeria	37-42	S	1-2	
Algeria	38-43	S	1-2	
Algeria	39-44	S	1-2	
Algeria	40-45	S	1-2	

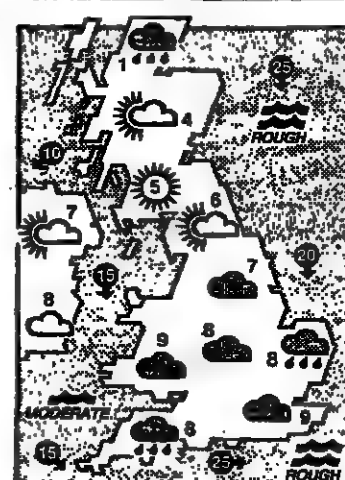
AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Scarbrough	6-12	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	7-13	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	8-14	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	9-15	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	10-16	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	11-17	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	12-18	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	13-19	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	14-20	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	15-21	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	16-22	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	17-23	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	18-24	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	19-25	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	20-26	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	21-27	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	22-28	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	23-29	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	24-30	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	25-31	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	26-32	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	27-33	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	28-34	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	29-35	S	1-2	
Scarbrough	30-36	S	1-2	

THE POUND

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Australia	2-8	S	1-2	
Australia	3-9	S	1-2	
Australia	4-10	S	1-2	
Australia	5-11	S	1-2	
Australia	6-12	S	1-2	
Australia	7-13	S	1-2	
Australia	8-14	S	1-2	
Australia	9-15	S	1-2	
Australia	10-16	S	1-2	
Australia	11-17	S	1-2	
Australia	12-18	S	1-2	
Australia	13-19	S	1-2	
Australia	14-20	S	1-2	
Australia	15-21	S	1-2	
Australia	16-22	S	1-2	
Australia	17-23	S	1-2	
Australia	18-24	S	1-2	
Australia	19-25	S	1-2	
Australia	20-26	S	1-2	
Australia	21-27	S	1-2	
Australia	22-28	S	1-2	
Australia	23-29	S	1-2	
Australia	24-30	S	1-2	
Australia	25-31	S	1-2	
Australia	26-32	S	1-2	
Australia	27-33	S	1-2	
Australia	28-34	S	1-2	
Australia	29-35	S	1-2	
Australia	30-36	S	1-2	

AM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 14C (57F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Rain: 6 pm to 8 pm, 0.15in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1013.5 mbars. Cloudy.

Lighting-up time: 5.35 am to 5.35 am.

London 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

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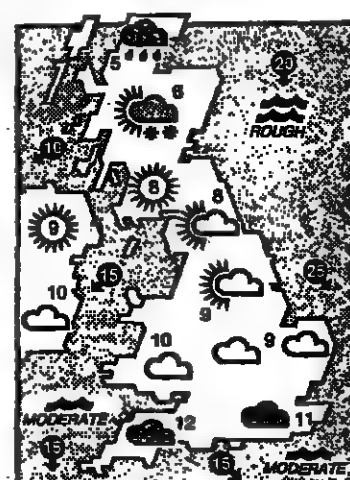
London 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

London 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

London 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

London 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

PM



MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 12C (54F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Rain: 6 pm to 8 pm, 0.15in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1in. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1013.5 mbars. Cloudy.

Lighting-up time: 5.35 am to 5.35 am.

Manchester 4.37 pm to 5.35 am.

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Information supplied by Met Office

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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1487.5 (+10.4)	US dollar 1.8225 (+0.0005)
FT-SE 100 1623.6 (+18.3)	W German mark 3.1528 (+0.0109)
USM (Datastream) 180.62 (+0.04)	Trade-weighted 77.2 (+0.1)

THE TIMES

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 18 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Two held in \$48m fraud case

A Greek businessman and a cashier for a Gulf bank were remanded in custody for a week yesterday at Guildhall in London accused of defrauding Hill Samuel, the merchant bank, of \$48 million dollars (£21.92 million) this year.

They were Mr Phivos Karanos, aged 48, a businessman, of Park Avenue, Palmers Green, and Miss Jennifer Toms, aged 36, an Iraqi-born cashier with the Bank of Oman, of Sydney Road, Hornsey.

They are charged with conspiring to defraud Hill Samuel of \$48 million by dishonestly procuring the transfer of that money to Abu Dhabi.

US hearing

Grand Metropolitan's legal battle for control of the US Pillsbury food group could be decided in December. Delaware Chancery Court yesterday scheduled a hearing for December 12 on Grand Metropolitan motions to direct Pillsbury to redeem its poison pill stock purchase rights, and preventing Pillsbury from living off its Burger King restaurants.

Short list

Short Brothers, the Belfast aircraft and missile manufacturer, has attracted 27 companies interested in acquiring it either wholly or in part.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2062.83 (+14.05)
Dow Jones	2907.81 (+10.88)
Nikkei Average	2568.79 (+1.97)
Amex	1494.9 (-27.4)
Sydney	1573.5 (-7.0)
Frankfurt	3312.4 (-4.2)
Paris	389.6 (-3.1)
Zurich	486.3 (-4.0)
London	1515.7 (+4.95)
FT-30	1623.6 (+18.3)
FT-100	178.3 (+0.7)
Gold	97.11 (+0.15)
FT Gold	87.94 (-0.15)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

HSBC	2750 (+5.00)
HSBC	1950 (+1.00)
Harrison Ind	850 (+1.00)
Poole	4000 (+2.00)
Volvo	3250 (+1.00)
SEI	3270 (+1.00)
United	2300 (+1.00)
Unilever	2370 (+1.00)
Grand Met	4300 (+1.00)
Capital Radio	4800 (+1.00)
Lasmo	5000 (+1.00)
Ultras	2470 (+1.00)
William Collins	5820 (+1.00)
Harrison Crossed	4080 (+2.00)
Lorito	2800 (+1.00)
Stylo	4490 (+1.00)
Falls	5050 (+2.00)
HSBC	3850 (+3.00)
Whitbread 'B'	6500 (+1.00)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	12%
3-month interbank	12 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	11 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	10%
General Fund	11 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills	7 3/4-7 7/8%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£/\$	1.8225
£/DM	3.1528
£/FF	10.773
£/Yen	122.67
£/Index	77.2
ECU	20.657895

GOLD

London	New York
AM \$425.30	pm \$422.00
close \$421.75	close \$422.00
225.51	
New York	
Comex \$422.20	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec)	pm \$12.30bbl (\$12.25)
Danish	least trading price

THE TIMES

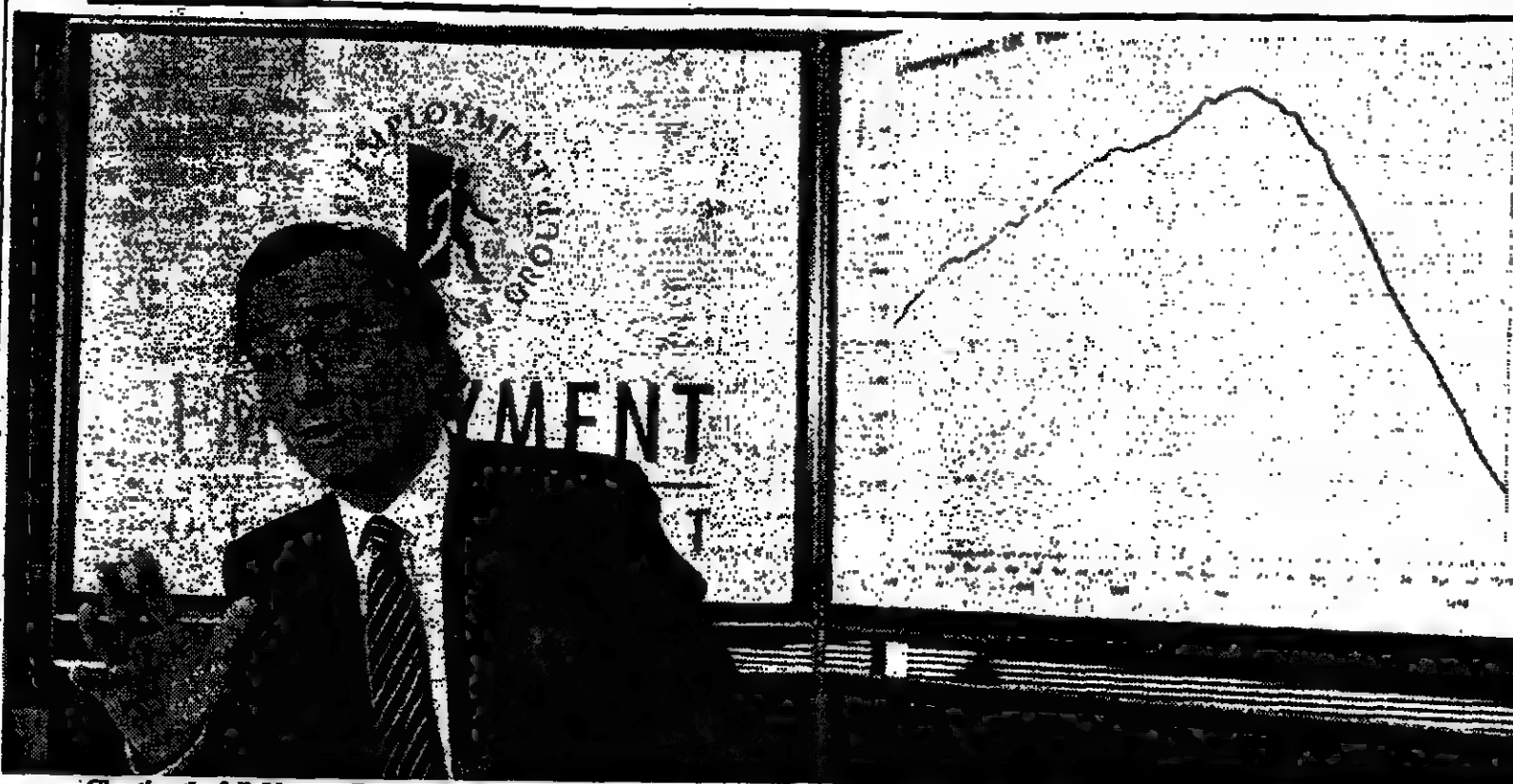
STOCK WATCH

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Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included: the market had a better day with early buying and good economic statistics; BT (01805) added 6p and Beecham (02365) 7p after results; Irish Distillers (02380) dropped 49p when the Takeover Panel gave the go-ahead for the Pernod bid; William Collins (01280) rose 142p after a bid from News International (01283).

Recent additions include: Rascal Telecommunications 03479; Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Fowler estimates number of vacancies in economy at 700,000



Charting the fall: Norman Fowler, Employment Secretary, announcing the lowest levels of unemployment since December 1980 yesterday

Panel clears way for Pernod victory

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The Takeover Panel has cleared the way for Pernod Ricard to win control of Irish Distillers Group with its £450p (378p) share bid by refusing to unwind disputed irrevocable acceptances.

The decision makes it impossible for Grand Metropolitan to win control of IDG with its higher £525p offer, because Pernod owns or has irrevocable acceptances from 53 per cent of the IDG stock.

In a judgement that, privately surprised most of the parties involved, the full Panel supported its executive's ruling that IDG had breached a basic principle of the code.

Which said and Pernod persuaded hundreds of small shareholders to pledge themselves to an irrevocable bid by

Pernod on Sunday September 3, they failed to give them enough time or information to make a considered decision.

But after rejecting IDG's appeal against the ruling, the Panel decided to take no action.

In a 40-page statement, it said: "The breaches were not sufficiently serious nor of

such significant effect on shareholders as to make it appropriate to release any shareholders from their undertakings to accept Pernod Ricard's offer."

GrandMet reacted bitterly to the ruling. It said it was "extremely surprised and disappointed" that shareholders had not been released from

their undertakings despite the bid and made it clear it had not given up the bid battle.

It bought more than 2 per cent of IDG shares in the market. This took its declared holding to 27.8 per cent and more purchases have yet to be counted. GrandMet repeated that it intended to keep its shares.

With its advisers SG Warburg and Allied Irish Investment Bank, GrandMet has asked the Panel for leave to appeal to its appeals committee. Such appeals have rarely succeeded. The Panel will hear the application next Monday.

It decided to take no action because Pernod and IDG did not set out to breach the code. "The irrevocable undertaking gathering exercise was conducted honestly and con-

scientiously". It said institutional shareholders had undertaken a business decision to accept the available Pernod offer rather than risk it disappearing because Pernod would only bid if it could gain control in advance.

But the Panel accepted that "a small number of individual shareholders might feel an element of grievance."

The ruling was welcomed by Pernod and Irish Distillers. Pernod expected to declare its bid final for acceptances on November 25. But the existence of GrandMet's holding means that the future of IDG is still not certain. GrandMet already has some joint ventures with Pernod and may try to swap assets, stay as a partner or exchange its shareholding for one or more of IDG's brands.

Dividend increase boosts BT shares

By Our City Staff

British Telecom pleased the market with a 13.3 per cent rise, to 4.25p per share, in its interim dividend. The news sent BT shares up 7p to 254p.

Pre-tax profits rose 9.2 per cent, to £1.24 billion, in the half-year to end-September on turnover up 10.2 per cent, to £5.4 billion, despite the price freeze which will last until August 1989 at least.

But earnings grew faster — by 13.2 per cent to 13.2p per share — partly because the Government's preference shares had been repaid and replaced with extra borrowings.

The volume of inland calls was 10 per cent higher than a year ago and international calls were 15 per cent up. The number of business exchange lines grew by 9.3 per cent, although there were only 3.4 per cent more residential lines.

Mr Graeme Odgers, group managing director, said BT was confident that the volume of demand would continue to grow at a reasonable pace.

But competition from Mercury Communications had slowed the growth of international call business. Turnover from international telephone calls grew by less than 12 per cent.

BT took on an extra 2,000 staff in the second quarter as it continued to switch emphasis from cost-cutting to improving the quality of service.

Jobless figures fall to lowest for eight years

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The jobless figures dropped steeply last month as unemployed school leavers below the age of 18 left the register. Under new rules they are required to join a training scheme and cannot claim benefits.

Overall the numbers of registered unemployed fell by 192,111 to 2,118,362, the lowest since December 1980. This partly reflects the postal strike in September, which delayed information, thereby exaggerating unemployment that month by about 55,000.

Allowing for these factors and other seasonal influences, the underlying level of unemployment continued to fall last month, dropping by 32,000 to 2.16 million. This was a slightly smaller fall than in recent months, but Mr Norman Fowler, the Employment Secretary, said it was too early to tell whether the rate of reduction in unemployment had slowed.

Meanwhile, earnings, which accelerated in each of the three previous months, stabilized in September with an underlying rise of 9.4 per cent. Earnings growth in the service industries was revised up to 9.4 per cent in August, unchanged in September, but in manufacturing it fell back from 9 per cent to 8.4 per cent.

With output staying high, productivity growth in manufacturing rose from 6.8 to 7.7 per cent. Unit labour costs showed a smaller increase than in recent months, 0.5 per cent above a year earlier.

Mr Fowler said job vacancies remained high, with an estimated 700,000 in the economy as a whole. "The fact that there are so many unfilled vacancies means that there is every reason for unemployment to continue to fall."

Vacancies at JobCentres rose by 11,000 to 251,000 while those at careers offices were marginally lower at 31,000 against 32,000.

September figures, initially showing unemployment down only 6,000, have been revised to a fall of 34,000.

The jobless numbers continued to fall in all regions, particularly in the West Midlands, the North-west and Wales.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Employment Secretary, said: "October's unemployment figures mark the most decisive break with reality we have yet seen by a Government that has made wishful thinking on unemployment a statistical art."

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development figures show Britain's jobless rate at 8 per cent in August, lower than France at 10.6 per cent and Spain at 19.5 per cent.

£293m NI bid for Collins rejected

By John Bell, City Editor

William Collins, the Glasgow publishing group, has rejected a £293 million takeover offer from News International, its largest shareholder.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, the managing director of NI, who is also a member of the Collins board, said he wanted to expand the group's international book publishing interests and that Collins could play an important role.

The Scottish group is best known for its reference, educational and children's books. It owns the Hatchards chain of book shops and the Fontana paperback operations.

Collins swiftly rejected the idea of an agreed deal. Mr Ian Chapman, the chairman, said: "We can all see why this looks to be a good deal for News but it's a lousy one for William Collins. We emphatically reject these unwelcome offers and will be vigorously contesting them."

The stock market senses a battle in prospect. Collins ordinary shares raced above the level of NI's bid terms, closing up 142p at 685p while the non-voting A shares stood at 573p — a gain of 120p.

NI owns 41.7 per cent of Collins ordinary shares and about 10 per cent of the A shares, bought during an unsuccessful takeover attempt in 1981. Since then, the companies have co-operated on several projects. NI last year sold Collins a half interest in its successful US publishing house, Harper & Row.

Collins rejected the bid terms as inadequate. NI is bidding 640p cash for each Collins ordinary share and 535p for the A shares. Holders also have the alternative of taking NI loan notes.

Halpern gives a warning

By Cliff Feltham

Sir Ralph Halpern, chairman of the Burton Group, yesterday gave a warning of much tougher times ahead for the high street.

"Things have changed dramatically over the past few months," he said. "Retailing is much tougher today. It is best to be realistic about the economic background."

He was reporting a 15 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for last year to £211 million, but confirmed analysts' predictions that prospects look much less bright for the coming year.

Sir Ralph said Burton, the chain which includes Debenhams, Top Shop and Dorothy Perkins, had already started trimming costs.

"Companies not in shape will suffer, that is certain. The market as a whole is likely to remain fairly flat, so retailers who want to succeed will have to create the extra market share by taking it from their competitors."

Sir Ralph's own performance-linked pay fell last year from £1.3 million to £996,000, because the earnings-per-share growth rate did not meet the company's tough targets.

For the year just ended shareholders collect a 17 per cent increase to 8.4p a share.

Times, page 26

Plessey may seek white knight in bid defence

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Plessey executives, led by Sir John Clark, the chairman, were locked in talks with their advisers yesterday in an attempt to find the best defence against the £1.7 billion bid by General Electric Company and West Germany's Siemens.

As a first step, Plessey is expected to urge Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of fair trading, to advise a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. It will draw the Commission's attention to the fact that it blocked GEC's attempt to take over Plessey in 1986.

The bid is being investigated by the European Commission to see if it breaches European trade and competition rules, although officials are waiting for full details of the bid after an informal approach from both GEC and Siemens.

City analysts believe a competition block on the GEC-Siemens bid is unlikely even if there is an MMC referral in Britain as well as close investigation in Brussels.

Speculation is mounting that Plessey could seek a white knight, as it is not seen as standing much chance of mounting a successful defence on its own.

However, if it were taken over, GEC would probably

secure the whole of GFT, the joint telecommunications venture set up between GEC and Plessey this year. On change of ownership either partner in GFT has an option to buy out the other at a "fair price."

France's Thomson is being mentioned as a possible rescuer, although there are questions over its ability to fund such a takeover. Thomson is one of the two largest players in defence electronics in Europe together with GEC's Marconi.

Speculation also encompasses companies such as West Germany's Daimler-Benz, the largest electronics

engineering company in Europe, as well as the two other big European electronics companies, France's Compagnie Generale d'Electricite and Philips of the Netherlands.

Daimler-Benz, however, may be the remotest possibility because its management has been stretched by several acquisitions.

Among United States companies the main focus is on General Electric, United Technologies and the Harris Corporation.

A first taste of tactics by

Plessey in its battle against the GRC-Siemens bid was the announcement yesterday of improved first-half results and a 10 per cent rise in the interim dividend.

Profits were at the lower end of City expectations but Sir John declared his belief that the electronics company was now "back on the growth path."

Plessey exceeded its profit plans for the six months, with operating profits up by 24.3 per cent to £70.1 million.

But higher interest costs arising from borrowings for acquisitions cut back pre-tax profits. They rose 10 per cent to £75 million against the corresponding period of last year.

Sales in the six months were up 14.8 per cent to £692.6 million.

The order book, which has benefited from the acquisitions, was up 42 per cent in 12 months at more than £2 billion.

Benefits from acquisitions and the still-to-be-completed reorganization of GFT could not be expected to flow through fully before 1989-90, said Sir John.

Because of the evidence of improving performance, said Sir John, the interim dividend would be 2.621p.

SIB tries out tough new powers on futures broker

DPR first in firing line for restitution

By Lawrence Lever

Tough new powers in the Financial Services Act are being used by the Securities and Investments Board for the first time to force a futures broker to pay back more than £1 million to clients who succumbed to its high-pressure selling techniques.

The SIB has already obtained High Court leave to seek what is known as a restitution order against DPR Futures, which has been wound up and is under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

DPR's directors, Mr Andrew Page and Mr David Ryooft, are expected to oppose the board's action.

Broadly, restitution orders allow the SIB to take action on behalf of investors against a firm which has breached one of the rules of the SIB, or the self-regulating organizations operating under it.

In the case of DPR the SIB's action for

restitution is likely to be based on the excessive commissions charged by DPR salesmen to unsophisticated private clients. These were sometimes as much as two-thirds of the clients' stake money.

Also likely to underpin the SIB's action is DPR's practice of "churning and burning" clients putting clients into futures contracts purely to generate more commission.

DPR was spectacularly profitable, making profits of more than £3 million in the last quarter of 1987. When it was closed down in July this year investigators found more than £1 million of company money in its bank accounts.

The Official Receiver, Mr Denis Dolman, also seized an array of cars used by Mr Page and Mr Ryooft — including a Ferrari, Porsche, Mercedes and BMW. These were cleaned up and sold for handsome prices.

Altogether there is now £1.4 million in

the kitty, and apparently only one major creditor, in the inevitable shape of the Inland Revenue.

The SIB's action for restitution will not, however, benefit all the investors who lost thousands of pounds through DPR's high-pressure antics. Restitution orders apply only to events after April 29 this year when the Financial Services Act came fully into effect.

This means that only those clients who dealt with DPR after April 29 will qualify for a share of any money which the SIB recovers.

Investors before this date would have to take their own separate legal action if they want compensation. This is ironic since the pre-April 29 investors appear to have suffered more than those who dealt with the firm after this date. After April 29 DPR took measures, including reducing its commissions, in the hope of gaining authorization under the Act.

CONTINUED HIGH PERFORMANCE FROM CONSTANT FINE TUNING

In every aspect of fleet management, distribution, contract hire, motor retailing and auctions, the Wincanton Group has shown the way. Not only as an inspired leader but also in performance. Something to which our latest figures bear ample testament.

In the 6 month period to September 1988, our turnover has increased 19% to £222 million, with operating profits up 18% to £11.2 million.

Throughout the Group — which represents a total fleet of over 20,000 vehicles — enhanced corporate strength and increased profitability have been major achievements in recent years.

Equally important is what a company does with its success — by reinvesting for the future, Wincanton is committed to improving its lead.

For details of how Wincanton can give your organisation a more competitive edge contact Betty Rogerson on 0963 33933. Wincanton Group Limited, Station Road, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9EQ.

WINCANTON GROUP

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Wincanton Distribution Services Ltd · Wincanton Vehicle Rentals Ltd

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Cambridge profit dips despite rising turnover

Cambridge Instruments, the scientific equipment manufacturer, has revealed pre-tax profits down to £2.29 million from £2.77 million for the half-year to the end of September. Turnover was 24 per cent higher at £63.66 million against £51.54 million. Earnings per share fell to 2.14p (2.46p). Dr Terence Gooding, the chairman, said the difficulties the company had encountered last year had been tackled, and he considers that the company is on the mend.

Orders in the six-month period were £63.9 million, and there was an order backlog worth £25.5 million. City analysts believe results are above expectations, but they are not changing the full-year, pre-tax profit forecast of £5.8 million. An interim dividend of 0.24p (0.22p) is declared.

Glynwed buys Foster leaps 85% to £1.4m

Glynwed International, the engineering group, has paid £25 million in cash for JB and S Lees and its associated companies in the US and West Germany. Lees is based in the West Midlands and makes cold-rolled steel strip products. The Lees' companies have assets of £10 million and recorded net profits of £3.9 million in the year ended June 30 on a turnover of £21.3 million.

Frozen foods deal

Watson & Phillips, the food distributor, has acquired Caterfrost's frozen foods business, its goodwill and some trading assets for £336,000, with £636,000 in cash on completion, and £300,000 deferred, depending on future profit levels. Stock will be purchased on valuation.

Caterfrost, which deals mainly with caterers, showed pre-tax profits in the year to end-April of £199,000, on turnover of £6.46 million. It has outlets in Glasgow, Perth, Tayside, and Olan, Strathclyde, and these locations will complement Watson & Phillips' Scottish catering branches.

Euroyen bond Poor summer hits Young

The Halifax Building Society is issuing a Y30 billion Eurobond, worth about £134 million. This is the second Euroyen bond issued by the Halifax, Britain's largest building society — the first was a Y20 billion bond issued in June — and is part of the Halifax's money raising programme which has amounted to £700 million so far this year.

Hestair nursery move

Cindico (Holdings), the nursery products manufacturer, is being sold in a deal worth £2.3 million. Hestair, the employment services and consumer products company, is paying £750,000 in cash, £750,000 in Hestair shares which the vendors have agreed to hold for at least six months, and £800,000 in loan notes.

In the year to end-August, Cindico made pre-tax profits of £100,000 on sales of £7.5 million, against profits of £300,000 on sales of £7.2 million in the previous year. Net assets are £1.4 million.

After the party, a squeeze on Burton

After nearly a decade of uninterrupted high street growth, Sir Ralph Halpern, the Burton chairman, gave his full blessing yesterday to the theory that the party is now over. There were two ways of looking at his view of prospects for the coming year. He is either very bearish — or very realistic. Either way, Burton, like most retailers, is facing one of its toughest challenges.

Ironically, the market place has changed, just as Burton has begun to see the benefits of the Debenhams acquisition. For the year just completed, the group raised profits before tax by 15 per cent to £211 million with a 16 per cent rise in earnings per share to 25.2p. The expensive refurbishment of the Debenhams chain is now more or less complete, reflected in sales growth of 28 per cent, leaving the average for the retailing side at 20 per cent and trading profits 14.7 per cent higher at £180 million.

There were some hiccups. Top Shop, aimed at the 15-19 age group, is suffering from competition and is being refocused towards the 20-30 group. Harvey Nichols suffered at the top end of the market crash last year and disruption from a modernization programme. Trading profits from the financial services side — 20 per cent of customers now use the in-store credit card — went up 6 per cent to £34.3 million. Prop-

erty, an increasingly valuable source of income, contributed £14.2 million, a rise of 47 per cent.

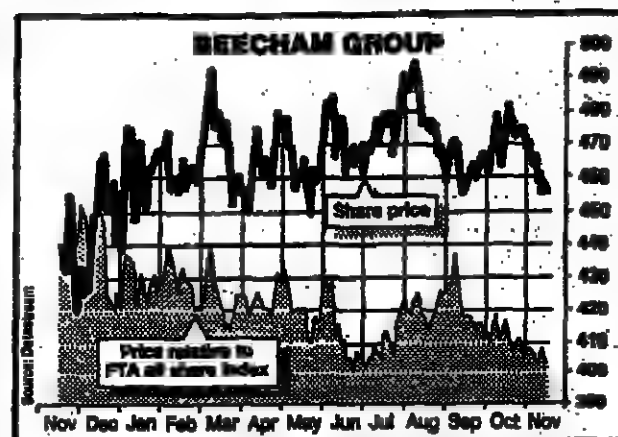
Burton demonstrated versatility, switching space from the slow-moving Top Shop to the better-performing Dorothy Perkins and adopting a vigilant eye on costs.

With margins already under pressure, at the retailing end squeezed from 12.6 per cent to 12.1 per cent, there is ample evidence that Burton's flair for predicting fashion trends will have to be matched by a niggardly attitude towards overheads to ride out what is expected to be an extremely difficult couple of years. Clearly, if there is any growth it will have to come from competitors, which implies even more pressure on margins.

For the current year analysts, already downgrading prospects ahead of yesterday's results, are now setting their sights on a very modest rise to about £220 million. The shares at 197p are changing hands at just under eight times prospective earnings. With prospects still clouded by the approach from the Department of Trade over the Debenhams takeover, the shares offer little excitement.

BAA

The market is still awaiting BAA's transformation from a stodgy airports operator into a



fast-moving property developer.

BAA unveiled a clean set of half-year figures yesterday, with only a £3.4 million profits contribution from Lynton Property, acquired in July, and no one-off profits from the £50 million sales from Lynton's property portfolio since then.

Pre-tax profits — up 16 per cent to £158 million in the six months to end-September — still took the market by surprise.

In part, the advance reflects higher profits from the catering operations and, although the company is still wary of putting any of this down to the miserable queues of delayed passengers this summer, there is little doubt this was a factor in the advance.

BAA is also squeezing more profits out of retailers at its

seven British airports, in higher rentals or a larger share of the profits of franchised businesses.

Against this, BAA will lose out for the second year running in landing charges, thrown out by rising inflation, which it has to assess in advance in negotiations with the Civil Aviation Authority.

Planned expansion should come in four phases. Lynton is likely to spend £100 million a year on developing its property portfolio. Second, the failure of the partnership deal with the Ramada chain leaves BAA looking for a hotel company to buy at a price of up to £200 million, to bring it to the necessary critical mass of 30 hotels — above which such an operation can be profitable.

It wants to increase its own wholly-owned retail interests

and, looking further ahead, it plans to move overseas. It has already lodged bids to manage the new Rotterdam airport as well as a string of smaller ones in Malaysia.

Outside pre-tax profits forecasts of £195 million in the current year put the company on a prospective p/e multiple of 11 times on yesterday's 284p share price, up 2p. However, this takes little account of expansion prospects. The shares have traditionally underperformed the market after profits announcements. This aside, in the longer term they look attractive.

Beecham

Beecham is now well and truly off its earnings plateau of the mid-1980s. A management reshuffle and about £350 million of disposals have created a re-focused group with some strongly growing pharmaceuticals and a cornucopia of important brands, ranging from Lucozade health drink to Yardley cosmetics.

But the shares have underperformed the market by 9 per cent over the past year, and are rated at only a modest premium to the market.

Speculation that Beecham will need to raise money appears to be wide of the mark. The group ended the first six months with net cash of £170 million — after the outflow of funds usually experienced at

this time of year — and expects to see cash of £350 million at year-end, £130 million more than last time.

Worries about delays on its new hypertension drug, Chromakalim, have some basis in fact. After adverse reactions in some monkeys given high doses of the drug, it is now unlikely to be used by itself for asthma and hypertension, and new clinical trials will be started for BRL 38227, derived from Chromakalim.

This will delay the launch of a drug for hypertension, but only by about six months as BRL 38227 is a much simpler compound, making registration simpler and faster.

Meanwhile, the group clearly has plans to step up its research and development effort, especially in its over-the-counter medicines where it sees enormous potential to develop its existing brands. And an intensified marketing drive will expand Beecham's geographical coverage of both medicines and consumer products. With 70 per cent of its sales in the US and Britain, Beecham sells little on the Continent, especially France, Italy and Spain, or in Japan.

Mr Peter Woods, pharmaceuticals analyst at Warburg Securities, has upgraded his forecast for the full year to £485 million pre-tax. The prospective multiple is just under 12, and the shares should prove good value over the longer term.

Acquisition fuels gain at Morland

By Our City Staff

A full year's contribution from the Bell Amusements pub TV games acquisition has helped swell pretax profits at Morland & Co, the Thames Valley brewer, from £3.80 million to £6.19 million in the year to end-September.

Earnings are up from 35.3p to 58.6p a share, and the board is paying a final dividend of 6.25p a share, making 9.05p for the year against 7.9p.

The company says it is more difficult than usual to forecast the future, with the Monopolies Commission report on tied houses still outstanding, but it says it is in excellent trading shape.

Westpac soars to record Aus\$1.2bn

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Westpac Banking Corporation reassessed its position as Australia's most profitable banker yesterday by announcing a record operating profit of Aus\$1.2 billion (£560 million) for the year ended September 30. This is 44 per cent higher than the previous financial year.

A final dividend of 18 cents was declared, complemented by a special dividend of 10 cents, both tax-free. Added to the 15 cents interim, the dividend totals 43 cents, compared with 28.5 cents.

Mr Stuart Fowler, managing director, said Westpac hoped

to expand, targeting key areas in Europe, north America and Asia but was unlikely to compete in retail banking and would concentrate on niche areas. He declined to be drawn on which countries in Europe the bank had targeted.

Retail banking profits, boosted by higher interest margins between depositors and borrowers, contributed most to results. Housing loans were a record Aus\$3.4 billion.

Disappointing factors included a Aus\$36 million loss in New Zealand.

Earnings per share were 94 cents, up 35.6 cents.

Neyrfor-Weir wins Qatar gas contract

By A Correspondent

Neyrfor-Weir has been awarded a contract to provide turbo and directional drilling services for the development of the North Field project in Qatar.

It is the first large directional drilling order won by Neyrfor-Weir, a joint venture company set up by Weir Group of Glasgow, and Alstom SA of France, in July, outside Europe and Africa.

Mr Peter Syme, chief executive of Neyrfor-Weir, said the contract boosts its plan to expand in directional drilling. The field is thought to be the world's largest with 1.3 trillion cu ft of proven reserves.

COMPANY BRIEFS

HANOVER DRUCE (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.16 (£0.90)m
EPS: 10.4 (8.3)p
Div: 1.5 (1.35p)

Company is hopeful of recovery in early 1989 after a joint venture with an estate agent failed to reach expectations.

JESSUPS (Fin)
Pre-tax: £2.70 (£2.04)m
EPS: 20.36 (17.46)p
Div: 4.25 mkg 6.25p

1987 dividend 3.5 mkg 5.25p. Directors optimistic that the current financial year should produce satisfactory results.

T LOCKER (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.58 (£0.52)m
EPS: 0.79 (1.47)p
Div: 0.375 (0.375p)

Turnover of £16.94 (£15.96)m. Orders stand at record level indicating a much improved profit for second half year.

A.E. BULGER (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.44 (£0.29)m
EPS: 1.02 (0.48)p
Div: nil (nil)

Development of company starting to produce good results. Board proposing to withhold payment of dividend until the year end.

SHIRES INVEST. (Inv)
Pre-tax: £1.63 (£1.53)m
EPS: 7.72 (7.91)p
Div: 3.35 mkg 6.70p

1987 dividend 3.15 mkg 6.30p. The Board is cautious about the prospects of equity investment.

JOHN FOSTER (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.42 (£0.77)m
EPS: 14.8 (8.1)p
Div: 1.75 (1.5p)

Profit growth continues resulting from strong order book and improved manufacturing efficiency.

THE BURTON GROUP PLC

1988 ANNUAL RESULTS

The Burton Group is pleased to announce the 8th successive annual increase in profits, earnings per share and dividends.

- TURNOVER UP 19% TO £1.6 BILLION
- PROFITS UP 15% TO £211.7M
- EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 16%
- DIVIDEND UP 17%
- CAPITAL EXPENDITURE UP 28% TO £188M

DEBENHAMS · BURTON · TOP MAN · PRINCIPLES FOR MEN · CHAMPION SPORT · DOROTHY PERKINS · TOP SHOP · PRINCIPLES FOR WOMEN · EVANS · HARVEY NICHOLS

The contents of this statement, for which the Directors of The Burton Group plc are solely responsible, have been approved for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986 by Price Waterhouse as authorised persons.

Beecham spending

Wembley US race

Dave leaps interim

Redfearn tops

More jobs

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THE IT

Beecham to increase R&D spending as profits leap

By Carol Ferguson

Beecham, the pharmaceuticals and consumer products group, delighted the market with a strong first-half performance and promised increased spending on research and development and on marketing and advertising. The shares rose 10p to 165p.

Antibiotics sales were strong in the first six months. Sales of Augmentin and Timentin, Beecham's newer broad spectrum antibiotics, rose by 50 and 24 per cent respectively. Augmentin has now overtaken Amoxil as Beecham's biggest selling drug.

Amoxil sales rose by just 6 per cent due to increasing competition from generics. As a result, British sales of Amoxil fell in the six months.

Eminase, Beecham's new anti-clotting heart drug, continues its expansion. It is available in West Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium, and will soon be launched in Portugal and Spain.

Mr Robert Bauman, Beecham's chairman, said that acceptance of the use of Eminase was growing. "In Belgium, over half of all heart attack patients receiving a thrombolytic are now treated with Eminase," he said.

At constant exchange rates,

R&D investment rose by 18 per cent to £63 million, while advertising and marketing expenditure increased by 14 per cent to £21 per cent of turnover. "Marketing expenditure of 20 or 21 per cent of sales is a reasonable spot to be in and future increases in expenditure will be more in line with sales over the whole group."

But he added that Beecham could fund R&D spending ahead of sales growth for the next two or three years by pushing down other costs and raising revenues. "We will re-invest back into marketing and R&D — we need to — and plan to invest in pharmaceuticals and products."

Beecham's published pre-tax profits rose by 19.6 per cent to £181 million, while sales were virtually unchanged at £1.2 billion. However, Mr Bauman said the results were distorted by a change in the method of accounting for goodwill, and the effect of currency fluctuations. At constant exchange rates, sales rose at 12 per cent and trading profits at 22.2 per cent.

Earnings per share rose 17.5 per cent to 17.5p and the interim dividend was up 12.5 per cent to 6.3p net.



Picture of health: Robert Bauman, the chairman, yesterday

Wembley buys US race stake

Wembley, the sports stadium and greyhound racing group still tipped to get together with Mr Tony Clegg's Mountleigh property company, is moving into the race-track business in the US.

Wembley is spending £3.65 million on new shares in United Tote of Montana to give it a 20 per cent stake, and is putting £164,000 into a new company to go into the American race-track business.

The new company will be 60 per cent owned by Wembley and 40 per cent by United Tote.

Davy leaps to interim £8.7m

Shares in Davy Corporation, the construction and engineering company, jumped 5p to 158p on pre-tax profits up from £6.23 million to £8.69 million for the six months ended September, beating market expectations by well over £1 million. Turnover increased from £378.53 million to £417.35 million.

Orders in all areas, including metals, minerals, chemicals and cranes, were up on last year, the company says.

Earnings per share were 6.8p (4.9p) and an interim dividend of 2.5p (2p) will be paid.

Unitech in \$327m US buy

By Martin Waller

Unitech, the electronic components manufacturer and distributor, has signalled a significant refocusing of its activities with a \$327 million (£180 million) agreed offer for Veeco, an American maker of power supplies and electronic instruments.

The acquisition, at \$26.50 for each Veeco share, will leave Unitech with £160 million of debt. It will immediately clear half of this by selling its distribution businesses in Britain, Italy and West Ger-

many and some parts of Veeco.

The market expressed its doubts about the deal and the remaining high level of debt by marking Unitech shares back 9p to 212p.

The deal will take the company out of distribution entirely, after these operations contributed about a third of its £14.7 million pre-tax profits in the year to May 28.

The purchase has the blessing of Unitech's largest shareholder, Elektrowatt, the Swiss

group. It creates the world's largest independent manufacturer of power supplies, which regulate the flow of power into equipment such as computers.

Mr Peter Curry, the Unitech chairman, said the group had been presented with an ideal opportunity to acquire a global position in one of its core businesses. Raising money on the London equity market had been unacceptable, and the group instead expected to get a good price for its distribution business.

Capital in tune with £9.3m

By Our City Staff

Booming advertising revenue helped Capital Radio, the London commercial station, to pre-tax profits of £9.26 million (£3.94 million) in the year to end-September. Capital shares soared 42p to 486p on the news.

Mr Nigel Walmsley, the managing director, said the commercial radio sector in general had experienced advertising revenue growth of more than 25 per cent for the second year in succession.

Capital's performance had been particularly strong towards the end of the financial year.

The decision by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to zero-rate secondary rental charges for the year under review had meant a £1.5 million one-off contribution, he said.

The advertising market place was becoming increasingly competitive, Mr Walmsley added, and past performance

was no guide to short-term prospects.

The group continues to pile up cash, with balances £1 million higher than a year previously at £5 million.

Independent Radio News, Satellite Media Services and Radio Riviera, all recent acquisitions or start-up ventures, continued to make progress, but clipped full-year profits by £352,000. The final dividend is 7p, making a total 4p higher at 10p.

Redfearn tops forecasts with £5.26m

By Wolfgang Münch

Redfearn, Britain's third-largest glass bottle manufacturer, under siege from a bid by PLM, the Swedish packaging group, yesterday published its defence document, which contained a surprise announcement of its results for the year ended October 1. Pre-tax profits were up from £4.08 million to £5.26 million, marginally above market expectations.

In the light of the results, the £54 million PLM bid now values Redfearn at about 11.1

times historic earnings. Mr David Newbigging, Redfearn's chairman, rejected this as too low compared with the recent acquisitions in the industry of CWS Glass and Beaton Clark, which sold on an historic multiple of 26.7 and 16.4 times respectively.

Mr Newbigging said PLM was attempting to buy itself cheaply into the European market before 1992. He added that Redfearn had increased its British market share from

13 to 16 per cent since 1984, rejecting PLM's claim that it is likely to find competition increasingly severe.

Redfearn's dividend rises 47 per cent, from 9.5p to 14p. Mr Newbigging pointed out dividend cover of three and half times remained above the average. Earnings per share, however, dropped from 49.69p to 48.88p.

OVS, the Australian industrial company with 29.9 per cent of Redfearn, has pledged

its holding to PLM if its bid succeeds. Mr John Pratt, former chairman of Redfearn, who resigned in March, controls 14 per cent and Redfearn is unlikely to stay independent if he decides to sell to PLM.

Redfearn also announced receipt of £1.06 million from Bunzl, which sold Flexpack, a packaging firm, to Redfearn for £19.5 million in June last year. The receipt came as a result of Flexpack's disappointing performance.

Royal adds \$200m to US claims reserves

By Richard Thomson

Royal Insurance stunned its shareholders yesterday with a surprise \$200 million (£110 million) boost to its reserves against claims on business in the United States. The extra provision helped to drag the group's profits for the first nine months of this year from £259 million to £140 million.

The provision caused particular concern, coming as it did only three months after Royal had set aside \$60 million at the half-year stage against US claims. The group will also face heavy losses on its motor insurance business in California if the result of last week's vote to cut premiums in the state by 20 per cent is implemented.

Mr Alan Horsford, the chief executive, said that the extra provision was "a major disappointment", but that it was right to deal with the problem "without further delay". It was the result of a stringent reassessment of reserves against outstanding claims in the US, he said.

Mr Horsford assured shareholders, however, that Royal would continue its policy of regular dividend rises. This helped to support the shares, which fell no more than 11p, to 366p.

BAA rises to £158m at half way

By Martin Waller

Shares in BAA, the former British Airports Authority chaired by Sir Norman Payne, edged ahead by 2p to 284p as the company unveiled interim pre-tax profits to end-September of £158 million, up from £136 million last time.

The figures were £8 million above some market estimates.

Earnings were boosted by a 5.3 per cent rise in passenger traffic through the company's seven airports to 38.3 million. The interim dividend is raised to 3.5p, from 3p.

Sir Norman said Lynton Property, the developer acquired this summer, had contributed £3.4 million to profits after financing charges.

Since the acquisition £50 million-worth of properties had been sold from its portfolio and another £100 million worth, including sites at Heathrow and Gatwick, had been transferred from BAA to Lynton for redevelopment.

Tempus, page 26

COMMENT

Pragmatic Panel fudges its tricky Irish question

The long-running Irish Distillers saga has been so full of extraordinary twists and turns that few should be surprised at the Takeover Panel's agonised final (or almost final) judgement. On the surface, it looks illogical. If the Panel decided that Pernod and Irish Distillers sewed up control of the whiskey monopoly by breaching the code, it then hardly makes sense to say no action needs to be taken.

The judgement makes it clear that the code breach was critical and that IDG shareholders telephoned on Sunday, September 3 were both wrongly informed and "to an extent, misled". They were told that GrandMet could not raise its bid, which turned out to be wrong, and would have been apparent if the Panel had been consulted — as it should have been. And shareholders were not told that the IDG board was contractually committed to support the Pernod bid. Not to act certainly goes against the spirit of the September 3 decision to allow GrandMet to raise its bid because Pernod's attempted shut-out was a competing offer.

The ruling only makes sense against the background of the bid as a whole. A political tension has undoubtedly built up between IDG and its allies in Dublin and the Takeover Panel in London. The Panel admits as much by implication in its enormously careful statement. This stresses that the Panel "acts as the Takeover Panel for Ireland at the express request of the Irish authorities... It is neutral as between the nationality or identity of rival offerors and as between both and the management of the offeree company".

Had the Panel given the victory to GrandMet by freeing shareholders from written agreements, it would have appeared to contradict the Irish supreme court judgement that FII-Fyffes' verbal agreement with Pernod was a contract that should be enforced. The contradiction would only have been apparent, but at this stage matters are highly sensitive.

Moreover, while the Panel's concern is for IDG shareholders, GrandMet hardly deserves much sympathy. It made two bids well below what Pernod offered, one as part of a consortium which, *inter alia*, would have stifled competition for IDG shares.

The third element is the difference between institutional and private shareholders. It is reasonable to expect institutions to look after themselves in circumstances where they are making rational choices. It was wrong for IDG to drag on hundreds of small private shareholders on a Sunday to sign up on the spot.

But if only small private shareholders were allowed to change their minds, the outcome would not necessarily have been affected. So the Panel would needlessly have threatened its authority in Ireland.

The judgement that "the competing equities do not require the position to be disturbed" is ultimately a triumph of pragmatism over Lord Alexander's usual fearless candour. That may be wise. The danger, despite the Panel's concluding warnings about the future, is that it may undo some of the good work of the past year in bolstering the Panel's authority in the City.

Hope for DPR investors

The news that the Securities and Investments Board is to seek restitution on behalf of investors in DPR Futures, the high-pressure futures firm, is a welcome development.

It will only be of direct benefit to the post-Financial Services Act investors who were unfortunate enough to have dealt with the firm. However, the evidence gathered by the SIB for the restitution proceedings will probably provide useful ammunition for those ex-DPR clients who do not qualify for restitution.

DPR, it will be remembered, is just one of several controversial futures firms to have been spawned by LHW Futures, the daddy of them all. The saga of LHW's application for membership of the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, the industry watchdog, is continuing.

LHW has been repackaged as "Burgon Hall", Mr Clive Thornton of Abbey National fame has been appointed chairman, and two of the

original founders — Mr Jeremy Walsh and Mr John Hughes — have reduced their shareholdings substantially. They did manage to take a tidy £19 million or so out of the company in dividends before LHW decided to smarten up its act with a view to being able to continue in business when the new system of investor protection came into force this year. LHW's application is now being reconsidered by the AFB in the light of its recent repackaging.

However, it would be an unhappy precedent if LHW were allowed membership so long as Hughes and Walsh — the two men who ran LHW in the days when it grew fat on the ignorance and greed of private investors — still have any financial interest in it. Some AFB council members believe that LHW plus Hughes and Walsh is still unpalatable. Others take the view that the Financial Services Act was designed to rectify the errors of the past. In other words, "let bygones be bygones". This is not good enough in LHW's case.

More jobs go at Citicorp

The predicted wave of City Christmas redundancies has already struck 38 members of the London staff at Vickers Da Costa, part of Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers International. After a top-level meeting last weekend, Far East specialists were handed their notices yesterday morning, as Citicorp cut back on what it calls its cross-border Asian equities activities. The jobs were lost in all parts of the operation, with salesmen and back-office staff equally affected, while another 37 staff in the New York offices were also told to pack their bags. There, the Asian-Pacific equities business will be absorbed into Lynch Jones & Ryan, Citicorp's US brokerage house. Citicorp said that it would try to re-employ as many as possible of the London 38 in other parts of the group, although late yesterday it had not come up with any offers. Vickers, which bought WI Carr, the Far East broker, has suffered from low levels of business. Some watchers are wondering if the next bit to go will be the Japanese side, while others are predicting that Citicorp will shed 260 jobs worldwide.

As one door closes another opens — at least it has for Jeremy Alan-Jones, who is leaving hallowed Citicorp for Salomon Bros. He is the first appointment on Salomon's UK equities side for 18 months, and will become the spurs analyst.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Up-market festivities

Just over a week before the official Christmas shopping season starts in the US, catalogue retailers are reporting strong sales. This should help cheer up companies such as Sears, Roebuck, which was concerned about the consumer spending downturn earlier this year. Those doing particularly well at the top end of the market, where numbers have doubled in the past decade, are

specialty companies such as clothing marketer Lands End — sales already up 25 per cent — and Sharper Image, which sells high-priced adult toys and gadgets. Other winners in the 6,000-strong US catalogue market offer seasonal merchandise which puts them above the average offering. By Christmas around 12 billion catalogues will have been dispatched.

Theatricals

Some US hospitals which have empty wings or blocks are now renting them out to film companies. The California Medical Centre in Los Angeles is budgeted to make \$200,000 (£109,000) this year in this way. It also rents out medical equipment and spec-

ialists to provide technical advice, and even supplies hospital food. The Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Centre charged \$3,500 for each day it was used in the television series *Liberace*. Although Hollywood is the favoured location, hospitals elsewhere in the United States and Canada have also been used.



"Why haven't we received a single hostile bid?"

New York, new work

Valin Pollen, the public and investor relations group which took over New York's Carter Organisation for \$51 million (£28 million) last year, is sending Alison Hogan, one of its home-grown investor relations directors, to the Big Apple in the new year. She will have the title International Vice President, and will be working with Don Carter, although she will retain her seat on the investor relations board in London. Just back from a safari holiday in Africa, she tells me she will try to rent a flat within walking distance of the swish Carter offices in Manhattan. Housed in the same building as JWP's offices, Carter's premises were used for a scene in the movie *Wall Street*, in which Don Carter played a fleeting role. He had already achieved a certain notoriety, before the merger with VPI, by boasting a salary of \$15 million a year, although industry spies tell me he watches the cost of every paper clip. Hogan is a former financial journalist, who trained at Haymarket Publishing's *Accountancy Age* and then worked for the *Daily Mail* and the *Financial Times*, before joining VPI as it is now known — in 1985. She will be replaced in London by Anita Frew, who has been at the right hand of WPP's Martin Sorrell for the last year as corporate development director. Frew previously worked on UK equity funds for Scottish Provident and the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Rosemary Unsworth

Royal Insurance

THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

- There was a profit of £252.4m (1987: £259.0m) before an exceptional item of £112.4m in respect of provisions for outstanding claims in the United States which reduced the pre-tax profit to £140.0m.
- The exceptional item arises from a reassessment of the provision for outstanding claims in the USA using more stringent assumptions appropriate to current circumstances, and completed with the assistance of independent actuarial consultants. As a result \$200m (£112.4m) has been added for the year as a whole reflecting the need to increase provisions for the claims arising in 1985 and prior years.
- Outside the USA an overall increase in pre-tax profits of 42% was achieved by the other property casualty operating companies with a particularly strong performance by Royal UK.
- Total pre-tax earnings from Royal Life Holdings increased by over 43% to £39.8m. This life and related financial services subsidiary now has interests in 795 estate agency offices.

Royal Insurance

A full statement for the third quarter results for 1988 (of which the above is an extract) will be mailed to all shareholders, and is also available from Corporate Relations, Royal Insurance Holdings plc, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR. Please send me a copy of Royal Insurance's third quarter statement.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
POSTCODE: _____

CSFB to set up 'leading' broker

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Credit Suisse First Boston, the securities house, is planning to build a leading institutional stock-brokerage operation in London based on Credit Suisse Buckmaster & Moore, the stockbroker firm owned by CSFB's Swiss bank parent. During the next three months, about 60 people will be transferred from CS Buckmaster & Moore to CSFB to form the nucleus of the new broking operation.

Mr Hans Rudloff, a director of CSFB, said: "It is too soon to say how much we will be investing in the stockbroker and dealing business but the amount will be pretty big."

The sections of Buckmaster being moved to CSFB include institutional sales, equity market making, options dealing, and research. The transfer includes Harold Rattle, the niche dealing house owned by Credit Suisse.

The move, which the bank says will not involve redundancies, is part of a worldwide reorganization of CSFB after its core Eurobond business suffered from the stagnation of Eurobond markets.

The company, which is not a member of the London Stock Exchange, has been split into three with branches covering the Far East, the US and Europe.

Credit Suisse will retain the private client and fund management sections of Buckmaster, which complement the bank's European operations.

OFT looks at British Steel 'pressure' on stockholders

By Colin Nairn

The Office of Fair Trading is studying a complaint from the iron and steel trade that British Steel, the near-monopoly steelmaker due for privatization this month, may have been "leaning on" steel stockholders not to buy supplies from other producers.

A spokesman for the OFT, of which Sir Gordon Borrie is director general, said the complaint from the British Iron and Steel Consumers Council was being circulated within the watchdog authority to establish whether a formal investigation should be launched and which division would have competence.

He said it was "still very early days" but that the issues raised in the complaint could involve investigators who deal with the Competition Act or



Sir Gordon: steel complaint merger policy. There could be a European Community dimension too.

The OFT is also responsible for checking that recommendations from the last Monopolies and Mergers Commission

report on British Steel are adhered to. The report investigated the question of the relations with stockholders, but found no evidence of anything untoward.

In response to the OFT disclosure, Mr John Safford, director of the council, said his organization had not made any formal complaint and he knew nothing of the OFT's involvement.

British Steel had been "extremely virtuous and sympathetic" in the run-up to privatization, he said, but saw a possibility of some stockholders agitating over the longer lead times on steel supplies arising from booming demand.

The stockholding industry has voiced fears about British Steel intentions in this area. The company already has 12-15 per cent of the country's

stockholding, making it the second largest stockholder.

Its close co-operation with the leading stockholder, Walkers, is estimated to give it effective control of about 40 per cent of British steel stockholding.

One stockholding company, which declined to be named, suggested it was normal for leading suppliers to put pressure on customers, and that stockholders could have been discouraged from buying elsewhere by price discounts offered by British Steel.

As reported on Monday, the European Court of Justice expects to deliver its ruling next autumn on £930 million of "illegal" and "excessive" subsidies to British Steel, possibly before the second instalment on the privatization issue is due on September 26.

HK futures trade 'not gambling'

(Reuters) — A Hong Kong judge has ruled that trading in stock index futures is not gambling. The decision will allow brokers to claim money from their clients.

Thousands of Hong Kong residents lost heavily on the futures market in last year's global share crash. Brokers trying to recover money had been waiting for a High Court ruling on whether futures trading was gambling. Under Hong Kong law, gambling debts are not recoverable.

In the case, Richardson Greenfields of Canada (Pacific), the broker, had sued Mr Kenung Chak-ku, a local vegetable trader, for HK\$537,000 (£38,000), which it claimed he owed for futures he had purchased. Mr Raymond Sears, the judge, said: "What happens on the exchange floor between a broker and his client is not gambling."

SEC investigates graduate 'insiders'

From Bailey Morris Washington

The US Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating the trading activities of a group of former classmates at the University of Pennsylvania, which veteran Wall Street traders describe as the ultimate old boys' network.

As fraternity brothers, drinking partners and amateur sports enthusiasts, the Pennsylvania graduates are considered a close-knit crowd who stick together. An informant has told the SEC that they stuck so closely together that they began trading insider information on numerous

deals. Based on the informant's information and a subsequent investigation by the New York regional office, the SEC approved a formal inquiry and granted subpoena power to the New York office in late 1987, an agency official confirmed.

Now, although no charges have been filed, there are said to be more than 12 graduates under investigation. Many attended the respected Wharton School of Finance at Pennsylvania. They are scattered across Wall Street, working as arbitrageurs, traders and investment bankers.

Some of them have been identified in published reports as under in-

vestigation but none has been accused of any wrongdoing. In a different case, there is already one Pennsylvania graduate under investigation. He is Mr Bruce Newberg, a 1980 graduate of Wharton, a former trader in the Beverly Hills, California, junk bond operation of Drexel Burnham Lambert, the securities house.

He was recently indicted in a criminal securities fraud case involving Princeton Newton Partner LP, the investment firm, of New Jersey. He has denied the charges.

Another Pennsylvania graduate who spoke out on the inquiry was Mr Jeffrey Schwartz, a 1981 Wharton gra-

duate and friend of Mr Newberg who gave an interview to the *Washington Post*, in which he confirmed that the US government is conducting an investigation but denied any wrongdoing.

"This whole concept that there is some conspiracy going on between former Penn students is absurd," he said in the interview.

It is known that the SEC has subpoenaed telephone records of some Pennsylvania graduates and is taking testimony. One person contacted is Mr Robert Salbury, another former Drexel employee, who pleaded guilty to insider trading charges in the recent "Yuppie Five" case.

Football transfer inducement not taxable as income

Shilton v Wilmshurst (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Morritt

(Judgment November 17)

A fee of £75,000 paid to a professional footballer by his club as an inducement to him to consent to his transfer to another club was not an emolument chargeable to Schedule E income tax under section 181 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

The payment came within the provisions of section 187 of that Act (payments on retirement or removal from office or employment) and was so chargeable subject to the reliefs given by section 188.

Mr Justice Morritt so held in allowing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Peter Leslie Shilton, from a determination of South Nottinghamshire general commissioners in respect of an assessment to income tax raised on him for 1982-83 in an amount that included the £75,000.

Section 181(1) of the 1970 Act charges tax under Schedule E "in respect of any office or employment" on emoluments therefrom.

Section 183 defines "emoluments" as including "all salaries, fees, wages, perquisites and profits whatsoever."

Mr Andrew Thornhill, QC, for the taxpayer, Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE MORRITT said that by a contract in 1979 the taxpayer was to play for Nottingham Forest Football Club until 1983. In 1982 Nottingham Forest, being under pressure to raise money, accepted an offer from Southampton Football Club for the taxpayer's transfer for £325,000 subject to terms being agreed between the taxpayer and Nottingham Forest. Subsequently the taxpayer did agree to the transfer on receiving a signing-on fee of £80,000 from Southampton and the £75,000 from Nottingham Forest.

Regarding the payment of the £75,000 the commissioners stated that it "was an inducement to the taxpayer to play football for Southampton and as such an emolument flowing from that service which he was to render to Southampton".

There was no dispute that the sum was an "emolument" and that if it did not fall to be taxed under section 181, then it was taxable under the provisions of section 187 of the Act. The question was whether, in the terms of section 181, it was an

"emolument therefrom" — that was to say an emolument from the taxpayer's employment by or with Southampton.

The approach to be adopted in respect of the word "therefrom" had been laid down in a number of statements of high authority — most recently by the Court of Appeal in *Widdows v Goodyear* ([1987] 1 WLR 357) where the payment of a sum to an employee to give up her right to belong to a trade union was held to be an emolument from the employment within section 181.

Moreover, it was clear from the decided cases that a payment made by a person to induce another to become his employee might, but did not necessarily, give rise to liability under section 181.

In *Hochstrasser v Mayes* ([1960] AC 376) Lord Radcliffe said that to be so taxable the payment had to be in return for acting as or being an employee. And, in contrast, in an earlier passage he said that it was "not sufficient to render a payment assessable that an employee would not have received it unless he had been an employee."

Also, Lord Radcliffe recognized that glosses were no substitute for the words of the statute — that the emolument was to be "from" the employment. That requirement was not the same as a payment "for" the employment when it was made by a third party.

A payment by a third party might be an emolument from the employment where the payer had an interest in the performance of the contract of employment. But Nottingham Forest was only concerned that the taxpayer would enter into a contract of employment with Southampton in order to obtain the agreed transfer fee. Therefore it had no concern or interest in the performance of that contract.

In the circumstances, the £75,000 was not as the commissioners concluded "an emolument flowing from that service which he was to render to Southampton". Nor was it an emolument "from" his employment by or with Southampton within the meaning of section 181.

No doubt it was a payment that he would not have received unless he became an employee of Southampton but, as Lord Radcliffe had pointed out, that was not enough. Accordingly the appeal was allowed.

Solicitors: George Davies & Co, Manchester; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Legal aid 16-day delay deplored

White & Wells and Others

A routine delay of 16 days before letters to the Legal Aid Area Headquarters at Reading were read, whether urgent or not, and further delays before they were acted on were such that in one case no action was taken on an application while further information was awaited when that information was already in a pile of correspondence in Reading waiting for the standard 16 days to be read.

That state of affairs in the administration of the legal aid scheme was such that Mr Justice Drake felt it in the public interest to make a statement in open court in the Queen's Bench Division on November 17.

HIS LORDSHIP said he was making the statement in open court because of his great concern about the administration of the scheme.

In dealing with the Queen's Bench Non-Jury List he had been made aware of matters which showed a deplorable state of affairs with delays in legal aid affecting individual litigants and resulting in cases being not ready for trial when listed which disrupted lists having a knock-on effect on all other litigants waiting.

On November 1 an application was made to his Lordship to postpone the date of a trial which on April 9 had been given a hearing date of December 5 by the third defendants on the ground of insufficient time to prepare.

The plaintiff opposed the application and applied for an order allowing a split trial, liability only being tried on December 5.

The plaintiff's solicitors, although partly responsible for the slowness of the action, complained that since August 1988 they had been waiting for a reply from the Legal Aid Area HQ at Reading to a request for authority to instruct an accountant to advise on quantum.

Two letters had been written, no reply had been received and apparently it was the policy of the legal aid authority not to give any information whatever in response to telephone calls.

His Lordship had asked the Law Society to send a representative to deal with the criticisms and counsel, Mr Duncan

Matheson, with a senior member of their staff, appeared.

While his Lordship commended the Law Society for appearing and providing a frank picture of what had happened in this case he hoped that the publicity given to the situation might lead to improvement in the operation of the legal aid scheme.

On August 17 the plaintiff's solicitors wrote to Reading asking for authority to instruct an accountant, stating that the matter was urgent owing to the trial date. The letter was received on August 18 but was not read and put to the bottom of a pile of letters, in accordance with practice, and read after not less than 16 days when it reached the top.

When read, probably in the first week of September, someone wrote on it "await hearing from solicitors with estimate fee".

Meanwhile on August 31 the plaintiff's solicitors had written stating that the estimate was £3,000. That letter was then put at the bottom of the pile unread.

So by the time the letter of August 17 had been read and written on, the information desired was in the pile and was probably read on about September 16 but no action was taken on it. For over six weeks no acknowledgement or reply of any kind was sent to the solicitors.

His Lordship was told that the solicitors had not telephoned because no one able to answer the query would be put through because there were insufficient funds to employ the necessary staff. Furthermore the doors of the HQ are locked to prevent any callers making inquiries.

A refusal on the application, a refusal on the ground of insufficient information, was made on October 31 and that decision (until his Lordship heard of it) was not made known to the plaintiff's solicitors.

Mr Matheson explained that the delays were entirely due to lack of resources.

The purpose of his Lordship's statement was not to criticize or condemn the legal aid authority but in the hope that something could be done to improve matters, which must surely be in the public interest.

Burden of proof

Regina v Chapman

Under English law it was essential for a judge to deal both with the burden and the standard of proof when summing up to a jury.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stocker, Mr Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Rose) so held on November 15 when allowing an appeal by Gordon Chapman against his conviction on October 14, 1987 in Leicester Crown Court (Judge Wild and a jury) of theft, on which he was conditionally discharged for 12 months and ordered to pay £100 towards the costs of the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE STOCKER said that criticisms of passages in the summing-up in this case were well founded. They dealt with the standard of proof but in no place was the burden of proof

dealt with, and both were essential.

It was accepted by the prosecution that that was a material irregularity. It was not appropriate to apply the proviso, and the conviction would be quashed.

CMI

In *Derby & Co Ltd v Weldon and Others* (No 3) (*The Times* November 15) we referred to CML Holdings SA, Luxembourg. "CMI" Throughout the case CMI was referred to in court as CMI in order to distinguish it from another company in the case with a similar name. We have been asked to make it clear that the abbreviation "CMI" in no way relates to the Criminal Medical Investigation Group or Criminal Medical International.



"INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE IS PAYING DIVIDENDS."

On the day British Telecom announced its financial results for the six months to 30 September 1988, BT's Chairman, Iain Vallance, reported record investments in communication technology and services.

"I am pleased to report that our half year results continue the positive trends that began the year. Earnings per share are up 13.2%, pre-tax profits are up 9.2% to £1,239 million, turnover is up 10.2% and the Board has declared an interim dividend of 4.25 pence per ordinary share — an increase of 13.3%.

"These figures are a clear demonstration of our success. At British Telecom, we believe that in order to satisfy our shareholders, we first have to satisfy our customers by offering a high quality service at a fair price. People will then use our services more, and that gives

Second quarter and half year results to 30 September, 1988

	Second quarter 3 months ended 30 September 1988	Second quarter 3 months ended 30 September 1987	Half year 6 months ended 30 September 1988	Half year 6 months ended 30 September 1987
Turnover	2,779	2,538	5,411	4,949
Operating profit	710	630	1,401	1,270
Profit before taxation	629	567	1,239	1,135
Taxation	223	216	440	412
Minority interests	2	2	3	1
Preference dividend	—	11	2	22
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	404	340	794	700
Interim dividend	—	—	256	225
Earnings per ordinary share	6.7p	5.8p	13.2p	11.6p
Interim dividend per ordinary share (net)	—	—	4.25p	3.75p

The interim dividend will be paid on 13 February, 1989 to shareholders on the register on 12 January, 1989.

us the profits we need to invest to develop the business for our shareholders.

"A very visible example is payphones. Thanks to a sustained effort by management and staff, over 94% are now working at any one time and as a result, payphone revenue is up by over 25%. This reflects the quality approach

we are adopting throughout the company.

"We're investing nearly £50 million a week in building a telecommunications system second to none, developing our new business activities and taking advantage of the growth in global demand for better communications.

"During the last six months we laid another 70,000 miles of optic fibre and we're introducing digital exchanges at the rate of two per working day. The benefits to our customers of all this work are quicker, clearer, more reliable connections and a range of extra services, which in turn lead to increased demand.

"The benefit to our shareholders can be seen in our half year financial results — and this has been achieved whilst we have frozen the price of our main services from November 1986 until at least August 1989.

"The benefit to the country as a whole is a company that is building a modern, efficient, telecommunications network, dedicated to providing services at a reasonable price, which people will increasingly want to use.

"The increased dividend reflects our satisfactory financial progress during the first six months and our prospects for the full year."

- Highlights of the half year**
- Earnings per share up 13.2%.
 - Interim dividend up 13.3%.
 - Demand for inland and international calls up by 10% and 15% respectively.
 - Continuing improvements in quality of service.
 - Record capital investment of \$1,244m for the half year.

If you have any queries as an investor, please call us on this number, which enables you to telephone from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call: 0345 010505.

British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ. Wherever in the UK for the price of a local call: 0345 010505.

British TELECOM
It's you we answer to

0345 010505

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily or weekly total and check this figure against the overall total and check this figure against the overall total and check this figure against the overall total.

No.	Company	Group	Gold Card
1	Plasman	Leisure	
2	Boots (na)	Industrials A-D	
3	Mountbatten	Property	
4	ISA Int	Industrials E-K	
5	RHM (na)	Food	
6	Contin	Building/Roads	
7	Ud Biscuits (na)	Food	
8	Lancaster	Motor/Aircraft	
9	Fisons (na)	Industrials E-K	
10	Robinson (Thomas)	Industrials L-R	
11	Goings Kerr	Industrials E-K	
12	Laing (J)	Building/Roads	
13	Macquary	Industrials L-R	
14	APV	Industrials A-D	
15	Victoria	Industrials S-Z	
16	Morris Int	Property	
17	West (na)	Bank/Discount	
18	Baron Transport	Industrials A-D	
19	BTG Ind (na)	Building/Roads	
20	Unigate (na)	Food	
21	Sturges (na)	Drugs/Stores	
22	Clarke Nichols	Property	
23	Br Telecom (na)	Electricals	
24	Barrat Dava	Building/Roads	
25	Tommies	Textiles	
26	Forster (John)	Textiles	
27	Rank Org (na)	Industrials L-R	
28	Mount Charlton	Hotel/Catering	
29	Unilever (na)	Industrials S-Z	
30	TVS	Leisure	
31	Lee China Clay (na)	Industrials E-K	
32	Leeds	Chemicals/Plastics	
33	Quaker Biscuits	Food	
34	Clyde Pte	Oil/Gas	
35	Granada (na)	Industrials E-K	
36	Lucas (na)	Motor/Aircraft	
37	Rolls-Royce (na)	Motor/Aircraft	
38	Camford Eng	Industrials A-D	
39	Watson & Philip	Food	
40	Hewson-Stuart	Building/Roads	
41	Reuter (na)	Industrials L-R	
42	BAT (na)	Tobacco	
43	Burclay (na)	Bank/Discount	
44	TI	Industrials S-Z	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily total for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price City

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1	100	100	100	100	100	100
2	100	100	100	100	100	100
3	100	100	100	100	100	100
4	100	100	100	100	100	100
5	100	100	100	100	100	100
6	100	100	100	100	100	100
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40	100	100	100	100	100	100
41	100	100	100	100	100	100
42	100	100	100	100	100	100
43	100	100	100	100	100	100
44	100	100	100	100	100	100

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1	100	100	100	100	100	100
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3	100	100	100	100	100	100
4	100	100	100	100	100	100
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40	100	100	100	100	100	100
41	100	100	100	100	100	100
42	100	100	100	100	100	100
43	100	100	100	100	100	100
44	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1	100	100	100	100	100	100
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4	100	100	100	100	100	100
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41	100	100	100	100	100	100
42	100	100	100	100	100	100
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44	100	100	100	100	100	100

UNDATED

Year	Company	Box	Year	Company	Box	Year	Company	Box
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New hope after the crash

What lies ahead for the world market in futures trading?

Improved systems and renewed optimism have led to new trading records, says Colin Narbrough

Many an accusing finger was pointed at the futures and options industry around the world after the stock market crash of October last year, as explanations were hurriedly sought for the dramatic downturn that ended the long bull run.

Those in the City who had still harboured misgivings about the whole function of hedging instruments, enjoyed a moment of vindication in the weeks after "Black Monday" when the derivatives tail was widely perceived to have been wagging the dog.

As Leo Melamed, chairman of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) and "high priest" of the industry, pointed out in London last week: "At first [after the crash] it again looked as if the days of these markets were numbered."

This was only the conventional wisdom of much of the media, he noted, but it was used to launch a powerful attack on the futures and options industry.

Though there are those who still believe that unprecedented discounts on the S&P 500 futures contract suggest that the crash had its origins in the Chicago futures market, and fed back to the New York stock market, Mr Melamed, for one, is convinced that the futures markets have been exonerated by the subsequent plethora of investigations and inquiries.

Not only does he see them exonerated of all blame. In-

deed, the highest praise has been heaped on them by most academic studies and knowledgeable experts. The Securities and Exchange Commission — the US watchdog authority, concludes that futures trading and strategies involving the use of futures were not the sole cause of the market breakdown. The SEC's report says: "Nevertheless, the existence of futures on stock indexes and use of the various strategies involving programme trading were a significant factor in accelerating and exacerbating the declines."

The industry, which has always had to "educate" the financial institutions to use its products, has quite an academic presence in the US.

In his *Financial Innovation — The Last Twenty Years and the Next*, Merton H. Miller of the University of Chicago, wrote that financial futures are the "most significant financial innovation of the last 20 years."

The huge markets for farm goods of the American Midwest generated futures and options more than a century ago. Financial futures, based on underlying markets in currencies, bonds, and equities, are relatively speaking, new ideas. Chicago saw its first financial futures contract only in 1972. The London Stock Exchange introduced traded options on certain stocks in April 1978, and the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) did not open for business until 1982.



Inside the Royal Exchange building, the London International Financial Futures Exchange in action: Liffe is hedging its bets, by developing a screen trading system for dealers during the hours the floor is shut at night-time

Futures and options have clearly been the most successful product types to be marketed by stock and commodity exchanges in the last two decades. Contracts in linked stock indices such as the FTSE-100 attract enormous attention.

Just over a year on from the crash, the "witch-hunt" is all but forgotten, especially on this side of the Atlantic, where the futures and options markets are of less importance, relative to their underlying markets, than in the US — heartland of futures and options trading.

Despite the storm financial futures have had to ride out in the US and other centres, Mr Melamed is convinced that the October 1987 experience

strengthened, rather than weakened the industry worldwide.

So complete is the change of mood in London, that exchanges can again be seen scaling new trading records and chalking up substantial advances on pre-crash levels.

By Chicago standards relatively new to many areas of futures and options — even the dynamic Liffe is only six years old — the London exchanges long drew comfort from the fact that their continental cousins took little interest.

This was attributed to their rigid market structures, lack of financial sophistication, and failure to appreciate the value of hedging instruments.

Times have changed. Europe's biggest options exchange is now in Amsterdam, not London, and new futures exchanges have been established this year in two important financial centres — Frankfurt and Zurich. Competition from the Far East is also growing, with Tokyo and Osaka, which claims the world's oldest futures market, having met considerable success with their newly launched

stock market futures contracts.

Then there is the potentially more devastating competition that will come from exchanges which have realized that modern computers give the the scope to provide screen-based, round-the-clock dealing worldwide.

The British regulatory authorities are already discussing the Globex electronic dealing system developed for Reuters, the news and financial information services group, for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Determined not to fall behind in the race for the global market, Liffe has also been evaluating the merits of the screen-based Globex, versus its present open-outcry system. An internal report will go before the Liffe board soon.

Meanwhile, Liffe is hedging its bets, by developing its own automated pit trading (ATP system) for screen trading out of hours when the Liffe floor at the Old Royal Exchange building is shut for the night.

By recently recognizing the entirely screen-based Nasdaq

Merger still a distant dream



Maude Bill of health

Even the Government is singing the praises of futures and options, however exotic they are considered in certain quarters, writes Colin Narbrough.

Francis Maude, the Consumer Affairs Minister, gave the industry a clean bill of health in a speech to a CME symposium in Piccadilly last week. "I know that in the United States there was a view that growth and volatility of the derivative markets was a major underlying cause of the crash," he said. "We do not share that view."

The Government's view is that futures and options are important vehicles for managing risk. It welcomes the growth and development of strong and innovative futures and options markets in London. "Indeed," he told participants, "we are positively promoting these markets."

But the proliferation and progress of recent years should not give way to complacency. Competition in Europe is becoming tougher. The edge London has on its Continental counterparts had to be consolidated.

Mr Maude urged action to secure London's position as the premier market in the European time zone. Pre-eminence, however, has to be earned, he said, as it had been in the past. He listed the "splendid array" of commodities, futures and options exchanges in the City — the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe), London Fox, the Baltic Futures Exchange, the London Traded Options Market (LTOM), the Grain Futures Market, the International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) and the London Metals Exchange (LME).

"Taken separately, each of these London exchanges is relatively small," he said, "but together they form a formidable resource."

"But with their resources pooled, they would be formidable."

The Government and the Bank of England wanted to see the exchanges brought together, preferably under a single roof.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, is expected to launch an initiative soon, possibly with a view to creating a derivatives "hypermarket" in time for the single European market in 1992.

But the exchanges themselves are more sceptical, given their recent experience of trying to get closer to each other and overseas exchanges. After all, London Fox and the IPE looked almost married when they moved to Commodities Quay next to the Tower in May last year. With its improved finances, however, the IPE has decided to abandon a joint marketing arrangement and go its own way. The IPE and Liffe have also failed to set up promised links with the US exchanges.

The Stock Exchange's LTOM and Liffe did, however, manage last month to reach agreement on a significant set of 18 initiatives, marking the end of 18 months of negotiation. Full-scale merger, which was an everybody's dream at one stage, is still far off, perhaps forever.

Though welcoming in principle the Government's enthusiasm for keeping London ahead of the rapidly growing pack of futures and options exchanges in other part of Europe, City practitioners are unconvinced about the wholesale rehousing of London's specialist markets.

One or two of the more compatible exchanges may get together, but some all-embracing re-organization seems out of the question.

With pooled resources, they would be formidable



Chicago's Mercantile Exchange Market: Virtually cleared of blame for the great crash

The most significant financial innovation of the last 20 years

Merton H. Miller
University of Chicago

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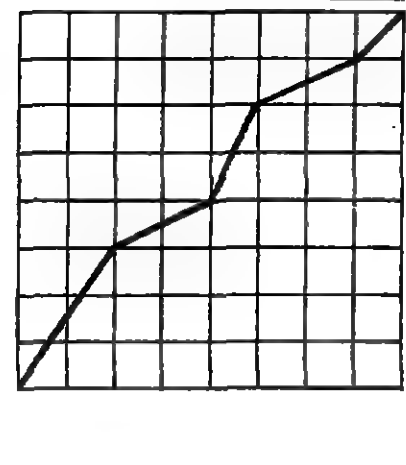
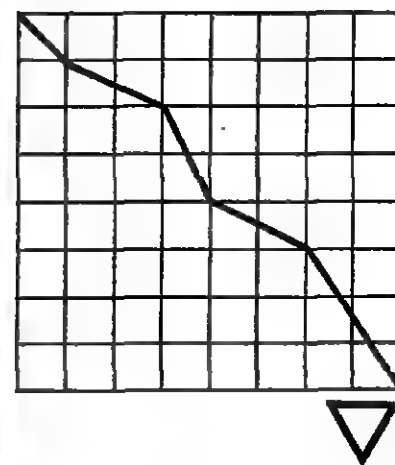
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Liffe goes for a global style

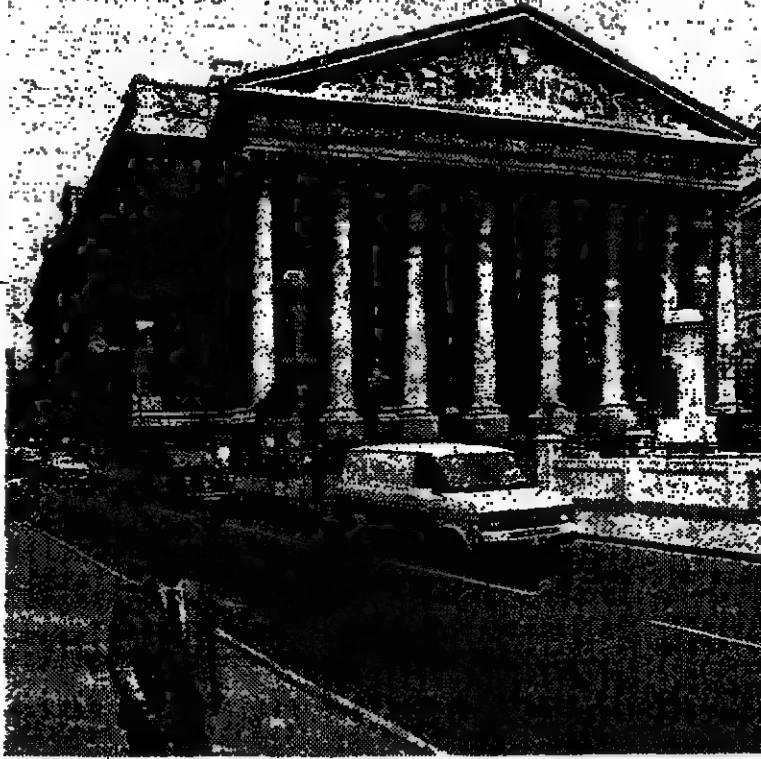
Colin Narbrough
on a major success
story in London's
financial markets

The classical stone facade of the old Royal Exchange building makes both a colourful, bustling interior and a success story for financial futures and options that looks set to continue, providing the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) chooses the winning strategy for 1992.

After only six years in business, the fast-growing Liffe is outgrowing its facilities. If, for the advent of the Single European Market, it can become the hub of a Community-wide network of co-operating financial derivative markets, its story could turn into a fabulous fairy tale. And its focus will not only be Europe. In an increasingly globalized financial world, an exchange has to think in world terms. Liffe already lays claim to the most comprehensive range of financial futures and options products of any exchange in the world.

It provides vital hedging instruments to dealers and investors, increasing the sophistication of the City as a leading financial centre.

Its contracts include futures on the major currency rates — Sterling, Dollar-Mark, Deutsche Mark, Swiss Franc and Japanese Yen — and interest



The Royal Exchange and Liffe chairman David Burton: Seeking strength with the Continent to deal with Tokyo and Chicago

rates for government bonds from Britain, the US, Japan and West Germany. Interest rate futures are also offered on three-month Sterling and the Eurodollar. Then there is the FT-SE stock index futures contract.

When the Chicago-style market opened its doors in the autumn of 1982, it was only offering futures. Options, largely matching the range of futures products, started to follow in 1985.

Despite the considerable apprehension the exchange met at first among City institutions, and the repeated damage that "cowboy" futures brokers have done to the image of financial derivatives, Liffe's numbers speak their own language and say much about the market's faith in it.

Last month — one year after the October Crash — Liffe recorded its most active month for a year, with average daily volume at 71,537 futures and options contracts for the month, giving a daily turnover of £16.2 billion.

Options had the most impressive gains, with contracts totalling 215,899 — 24 percent higher than the previous best from October 1987. Individual records were set for Short Sterling, Eurodollar and US Treasury Bonds.

Mr David Burton, the Liffe chairman, calls the performance of the options side of the exchange's business "remarkable", considering how sluggish options have been worldwide. Against this slow international background, Liffe's options achieved 55 per cent growth. The champagne launch of the new German Government Bond — "Bund" — futures contract last month, would also appear to have been money well spent. The Bund allowed the exchange to fulfil its long-cherished ambition of offering bond futures contracts in the world's four most traded currencies, adding the West German to the existing Sterling, United States and Japanese bonds futures.

West German government securities represent one of the biggest internationally traded debt markets, but the West German authorities required considerable persuading before agreeing to the Liffe move.

The new product sent alarm bells ringing in the West German financial community which is planning to launch its own futures and options exchange next year. In the first month, the Bund reached a volume of 107,467 contracts. The long-established US T-Bond managed only 193,263 by comparison.

Mr Burton attributes the success to widespread demand for a hedging instrument and the very competitive bid-offer (within two pence) that has been maintained.

Open interest also hit a new record of 304,592 futures and options contracts last month — an increase of 27 per cent on the previous record set in August.

The buoyant situation may in part be due to the long-awaited clarification the Inland Revenue gave on the

treatment of futures and options. But the increased enthusiasm for Liffe instruments being shown by the financial institutions is also seen by the exchange as a sign that financial derivatives are simply better understood.

Mr Burton recalls that the City had no real technical knowledge of this field when Liffe started, and the more positive attitude today directly reflects the learning process that the institutions have undergone.

For the much-publicized futures trading firms, which use high-pressure sales techniques directed at the retail market, the Liffe chairman has little time. "I think these sharks should be put out of business," The Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, the watchdog for the sector, thinks much the same, and has this year refused authorization for a number of firms.

With the City's initial misgivings having given way to respect, nothing of the small brokers' problem has rubbed off at the Royal Exchange.

After Black Monday, when derivatives were getting a great deal of bad publicity, and futures exchanges in the United States were being forced to take trading breaks, Liffe was able to enhance its reputation by continuing with business as usual.

Mr Burton, who took over the chairmanship in May, sees Liffe's greater commitment to marketing its products starting to pay real dividends. This was recently underlined by the highly successful launch of the Bund. And since the end of September, there are signs that the cash market, attracted by the comprehensive hedging facilities, is moving to London.

But there is still work to be done, according to Mr Burton. More aggressive marketing and the use of "designated broker" system are among the priorities. Despite the Treasury's exhortations in favour of greater use of the European Currency Unit (ECU), Liffe has little interest in creating ECU contracts at present.

The artificial currency is still largely held by central government and institutions, providing insufficient activity and liquidity in the secondary market. If companies began borrowing in ECUs, the exchange could well change its attitude.

One of Mr Burton's first calls as chairman was for Liffe to have a "big voice" in the way the European futures and options industry developed as European economic integration gathers pace.

He agrees in principle with the Government's proposal for London's derivative exchanges for commodities and

financial instruments to pool their resources, possibly under one roof. But to say it is one thing, to do it another.

Liffe has already had to give considerable thought to finding more space, either through remodelling the interior of the Royal Exchange, or looking at new premises.

The near-empty floor of the Stock Exchange is often suggested as an ideal location, especially as it is the home of the London Traded Options Market with which Liffe last month staked out a list of joint initiatives. This fell far short of the merger once mooted, but promises valuable co-operation between two largely complementary markets.

Mr Tony de Guingand, the LTOM director, has also seen his options volume clock up a record month in October. The proportion of hedging on equities covered by LTOM options has also risen to 33 per cent from 27 per cent in the final quarter of last year.

He believes about 80 per cent of the benefits that a merger with Liffe would give can be achieved through co-operation that would provide for common systems, procedures and guarantees.

Mr Burton has not only been talking to LTOM. He has had discussions with the French and Dutch exchanges about future co-operation. Not that he is underestimating the difficulties which will have to be faced in finding common ground with the fast-multiplying Continental futures and options markets.

Wary of the Government's attempts to urge greater co-operation upon the exchanges in the run-up to 1992, he is having to look wider than Europe. Liffe is the premier exchange within its time-zone. Its market is global.

Hence the need for Liffe to study the impact of screen-based systems for extending its trading day. This does not necessarily mean that the trading floor at the Royal Exchange will disappear. It might merely be given a technical add-on to reach markets in North America and the Pacific Basin.

On the European front, Mr Burton makes clear that the Bund contract was not a declaration of war on Frankfurt, as some German commentators have seen it. "We are in the market for co-operation and have good relations with the Germans' Terminboerse (nascent futures exchange)," he underlines.

Clearly, he does not want to draw battle lines between London and its Continental rivals, but ensure their combined strength is better able to face Tokyo and Chicago.

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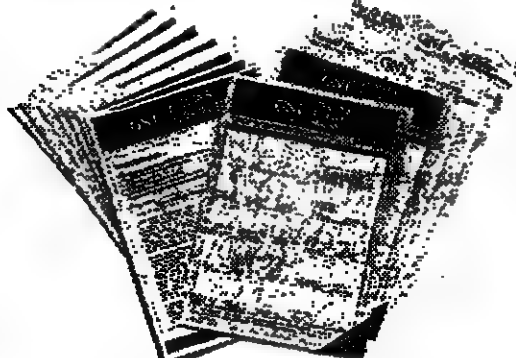
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Financial relief: a dealer escapes from the hectic atmosphere of Liffe for a cigarette break

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Hedging bets gives a boost

The 1987 crash may have benefited some parts of the financial sector. Richard Thomson explains the new feeling of confidence

The reputation of London's derivative markets as places where nothing is quite normal is fully justified. While the rest of the stock market is still suffering from the after-effects of the October 1987 crash — low turnover, lack of investor confidence and falling profits among stockbrokers — the London Traded Options Market takes a different view of things.

"The crash, in a way, was a good thing for us," insists Mr Tony de Guingand, manager of the LTOM and chief publicist for London's premier options market. Indeed, the market now claims to be Europe's biggest options exchange since it overtook the older Amsterdam market last year in volume of turnover.

The long and the short of it is simply that the crash highlighted the function of options as a hedging instrument. Options used to be lumped in with the category of financial instrument regarded as highly speculative, spivvy and probably immoral. Now investors are changing their minds.

"The crash brought home to institutional users that options are necessary and crucial to the management of funds."

Naturally, the immediate effect of the crash was to depress volume in traded options. But between last September 1987 — the month before Black Monday — and September 1988, volume on the LTOM is only 12 per cent down. Compared to the dismally depressed business on the main stock exchange, this is remarkably good going.

"The institutions now look at options as a hedge," said Mr de Guingand. "After all, if the price goes the wrong way you only stand to lose your premium which is not likely to be more than 10 per cent of the actual share price." Better

than losing your shirt on the main market, many institutions are beginning to think.

The increasing attractions of hedging have also been seen in the rising popularity of the Index Option which enables investors to buy the FTSE index. Already, £35 million in premium value has changed hands on the Index Option over the last year compared with £147 million on ordinary equity options.

And as investment strategies become more sophisticated, investors are using options as a way of maximizing returns when little is going on in the main share market.

"More institutions are using us as a way of enhancing their portfolios in a flat market," Mr de Guingand said. Yet the crash has had one important, and somewhat unfortunate effect. "There has been a substantial increase in the use of the market by professionals. Private investors dropped out after the crash and have only been filtering back in since September. Since it was the Government's privatization programme and the growth of the small investor that helped the LTOM to take off in 1984, the lack of private investors now is regrettable."

It also means that growth in business is slower. Many investors have to be convinced by the LTOM's own proselytisers to use options at all. But once the individual fund manager has seen the light, it may still be as much as a year until he actually begins to use the market. Before he can do that he has to convince sceptical executives and trustees, not to mention installing computer systems which can handle the new type of deal.

Nevertheless, the LTOM is quietly confident about the future. "The crash was a hiccup. We see ourselves growing at a steady rate from now on, comparable with our

growth rate in the two or three years before the crash," Mr de Guingand said.

There is little pressure to expand the range of options contracts available on the market, however. These cover a range of ordinary shares and, of course, the Index Option. But the trend has been to reduce numbers in the interests of quality. Two gilts options are being phased out because they were never very popular and the future of the currency options looks uncertain. They have never taken off in London, mainly because of strong competition from contracts in the US.

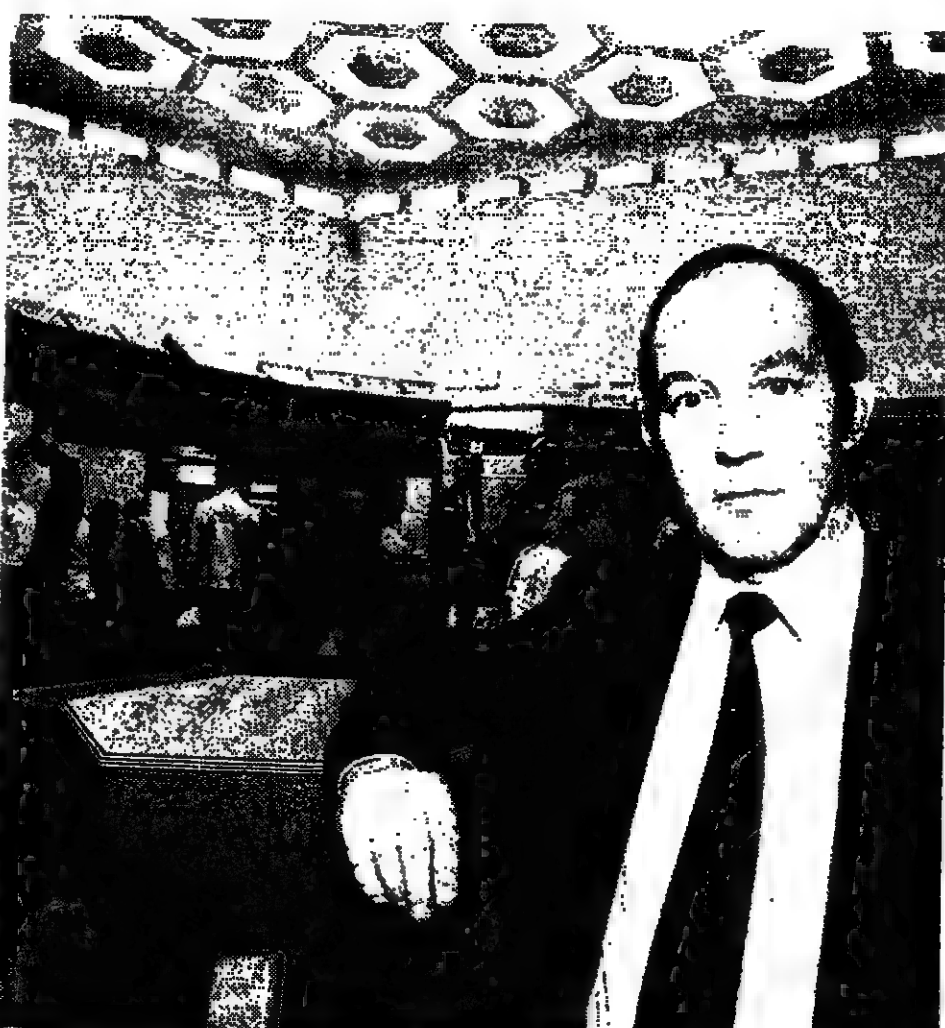
The gilts options are also being dropped as part of the LTOM's love affair with the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe). The two markets were and are keen to merge, but cannot find a way of doing it tidily. Serious talks took place earlier this year but foundered on the practical problems of how to implement a merger. Issues such as different equity structures and distinct membership proved insuperable. Instead, a form of cohabitation is being developed.

This includes eliminating duplicate contracts. The LTOM scraps its unsuccessful gilts options while the successful Liffe gilts futures carry on. Liffe scraps its wilting index future while the LTOM option carries on.

At the same time, the two markets have linked up their technical systems so that the LTOM uses Liffe's trading system. This means that a dealer can trade on both markets using the same dealing screen, an obvious bonus in terms of lowering the cost of equipment and in having traders who can understand and operate in both markets.

The close co-operation also gives the markets greater influence in bargaining with the powers-that-be when lobbying for their interests. This has lately taken on an international dimension, with links being forged with the Amsterdam-based European Options Exchange and with German and French industry forces to face the EEC's bureaucrats. Physical integration of the LTOM and Liffe will take a lot longer. The possibility of moving Liffe to the Stock Exchange trading floor was looked at but rejected as too expensive. It would have involved big changes to the Stock Exchange building.

Yet Liffe is already starting to run into space restraints. With each new contract introduced, the trading floor becomes more cramped; a time may come when a radical solution has to be found. That may be the moment for a merger of the two markets, but no one is expecting that to happen in the near future.



Tony de Guingand, manager of the London Traded Options Market: "The crash, in a way, was a good thing for us"

Riding cowboys out of town

What is most people's image of a futures and options salesman? He is a smooth talker, with slicked-back hair and a confidential telephone manner, writes Richard Thomson. He is dead certain that futures are definitely the right investment for you. He is always keen to hurry you into a deal.

He takes your money and never gives it back. He drives a Porsche, of course. His suits are sharp and very, very expensive. He has green eyes and claws.

This is the kind of image which the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, the self-regulatory organization for the derivative markets, is trying to combat. A relatively small number of firms using high-pressure selling techniques on private clients has managed to tarnish the public's view of the entire futures and options industry.

This happened because there was, to all intents and purposes, no regulation of these markets until the advent of the Financial Services Act, and the cowboys were free to do as they liked.

At the recent annual general meeting of the AFBD, Christopher Sharples, the organization's chairman, was adamant that things have changed. "The days of churn 'em and burn 'em have gone," he said. Futures and options firms are no longer free to hustle people into rash invest-

ments, charge the earth for their services and then lose all their clients' money.

The process began with the banning of LHW, the most notorious of the cowboy firms, in 1986. Of 415 firms that applied to join the AFBD under the new FSA requirements, 26 were rejected. The last two years have been a slog for the AFBD. It has had to put in place a whole regulatory structure where none existed before.

The AFBD is responsible for laying down and monitoring the rules for the conduct of each market and the firms involved, as well as for its members' capital adequacy.

Alastair Annand, chief executive of the AFBD, said: "Regulation has already had an effect on the markets. The markets and those who operate in them now have to work to higher standards."

Apart from setting new rules for the London markets, the AFBD is also liaising with foreign futures and options markets. It has already led to memoranda of understanding with the US and other countries, covering the exchange of information on firms operating internationally.

In two years time, Mr Annand hopes, the regulatory linkages between the world's main futures and options markets should be extensive.

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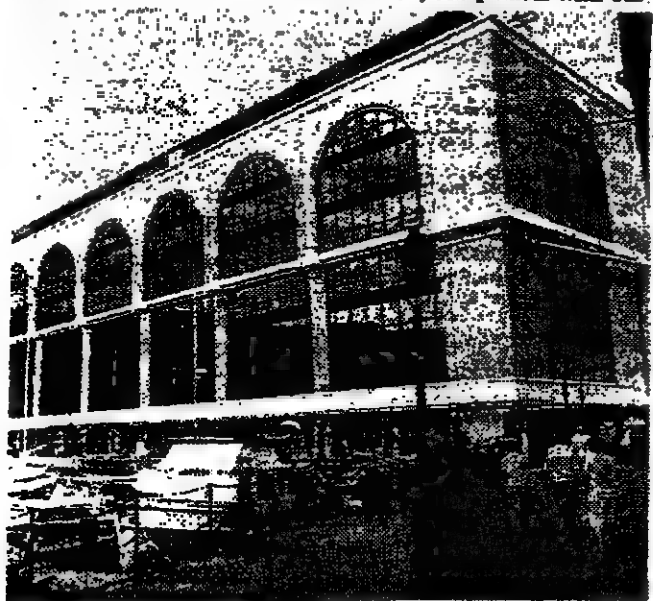
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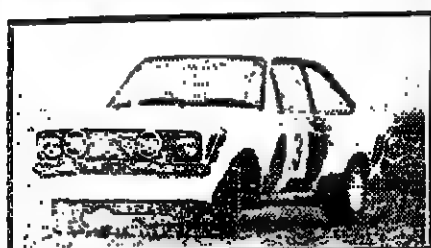
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RUGBY UNION

Craven persists with his brave plans for the game in S Africa

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

"The new century is to be one of total integration." Brave words from Danie Craven, the president of the South African Rugby Board (SARB), who spoke yesterday of his hopes for the future after last week's committee meeting in Cape Town which left him, apparently, unchallenged in his leadership of the board.

It is never easy to interpret the hearts and minds of the embattled South Africans but Craven, aged 78, seems as strongly entrenched now as at any time during the last five years when observers have believed his grip might be failing.

Last week's meeting, which followed the discussions in Harare between representatives of the banned African National Congress, Craven, and Luis Luyt, of Transvaal, came to a unanimous agreement on three main heads:

- There should be unification of all rugby bodies in South Africa.
- All forms of violence of whatever nature, physical or mental, imposed on South Africa and affecting all its people and sports, should be discouraged (without reference to the ANC or, indeed, to the South African Government, to whom the remark could be equally well addressed).
- There should be total integration in rugby which knows and acknowledges no apartheid.

"The meeting was a great victory for us in this country," Craven, speaking from his home in Stellenbosch, said yesterday. "For the first time the world apartheid was mentioned in our meeting and we agreed that we did not adhere to it. That was the end of the story."

Craven firmly denied there had been any diminution of his role as president and Paul Dobson, for many years an observer of the South African rugby scene, who attended the SARB meeting (the full committee meeting is held in public session) described him as "buoyant" afterwards because he believed the board had provided their best-ever antidote to apartheid.

"Certainly there are people in South Africa who like racial segregation and there may even be such people on the South African Rugby Board," Dobson said. "But that has nothing to do with the workings of the board itself nor do their personal beliefs in this matter impinge on Craven's position in the board. Nor does it hamstring the board's movement towards integration."

Craven said the SARB has written to the South African Rugby Union—who were also represented in Harare in October—and anticipates a meeting before the end of the year to discuss one, integrated body. "I am not entering a new century without it," he said, referring to next year's centenary of the SARB.

When the SARB executive committee meets next, probably in mid-January, Craven also hopes to report that a touring team will definitely be arriving in 1989 to help celebrate the centenary. At the same time he appealed for an international schools team to consider visiting South Africa, to help speed up the process of integration at that level.

"That's where we sometimes come unstuck," he said. "There's a lot to be done there. A tour by schoolboys would metamorphose schools rugby here. A parent would never stand in the way of the promotion of his child's ability. There is an invitation by us to any international schools side or, failing that, even a visit by an individual school from Britain would be good."

The January meeting would also look forward to hearing reports from Fritz Eloff, and Johan Claassen, who have been given specific roles in the advancement of South Africa's rugby.

Eloff, president of Northern Transvaal, and vice-chairman of the International Rugby Football Board, is to continue the "Africa initiative" begun by Craven, which has to do with the unification process into which the ANC had been drawn; Claassen, president of Western Transvaal, has had the "Gondwanaland" Rugby Union project (association between Africa and South America) delegated to him.

"This had nothing to do with my recent health problems," Craven said (he has undergone major heart surgery during the last 18 months). "I felt that Eloff and Claassen should be involved in something positive. Whatever they do must come back to the board's executive committee anyway. I have never felt my position under threat at any time. So many people have called me since the Harare meeting from all over the world. Something of this must spill over into the political world and elsewhere."

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FOOTBALL: THE SMALL CLUB WORTHY OF BETTER SUPPORT AND THE BIG ONE WHICH ABUSES THEIRS



Pearce's post: Bognor's manager contemplates the prospects of further Cup glories

The team that deserves more support from folk in Bognor

By Paul Newman

It took Bognor Regis Town 89 years to reach the first round of the FA Cup. When they finally got there, in 1972, they must have wondered whether the wait was worthwhile. Drawn away to Colchester United, the Sussex side sunk without trace, beaten 6-0.

Yet today Jack Pearce, the Bognor manager, laments the fact that the Vauxhall-Opel League club's supporters have become blasé about Cup success. When Bognor entertain Exeter City tomorrow they will be making their fifth successive appearance in the first round.

"Because of the novelty has worn off we've had to get a crowd of more than 3,000," Pearce said. "I don't think some people here appreciate how lucky they've been to see us so well in the Cup. It took us nearly 100 years to get to the first round, and who knows, after this season it might be another 100 years before we get there again."

Bognor's greatest moment came four years ago when they beat Swansea City, then in the third division, 3-1 in a first round replay. Bognor then lost 6-2 away to Reading in the second round. They reached the second round again a year later but went down 6-1 away to Gillingham. In the last two years they have gone out in the first round to Slough Town and Torquay United.

You have to have a bit of luck to succeed in the Cup and the competition's been particularly kind to us over the years," Pearce said. "It's brought a bit of glamour to the club and has made people in the town sit up and take notice of us."

Luck, however, has been in short supply at Nyewood Lane in the last year and a half. The storm last October caused thousands of pounds worth of damage — one falling tree crashed through the roof of the main stand — and the team has also needed substantial re-building.

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Little reward for loyalty of Tyneside fans

David Miller

The football people of Tyneside have the open, trusting heart of a 17-year-old, yearning to be in love with the game. Yet for as long as I can remember they have been constantly jilted, either betrayed by incompetent directors or scorned by fast players who fancied someone else's club, the endorsement of another club's worldly goods. Seldom have Newcastle supporters been more betrayed than at this time.

In two seasons they have witnessed the exits of four outstanding players though it could be argued there was some excuse. Beardsley, Waddle, Gascoigne and Goddard have departed. Subsequently, over 40 million has been spent on modern grandstands and new, regrettably inadequate replacements on the field. Another manager has gone, and tomorrow the team travels to Millwall already facing the prospect of relegation. The club's plight is a disgrace, from which none but the directors can take responsibility.

Vote for McKeag is a sign of times

It is a sign of the times, perhaps, that the other first division clubs have unanimously voted for Gordon McKeag, Newcastle's chairman, as their candidate for the vacancy of league president. McKeag, having steered a club which should be among the foremost in Europe back towards the junkshop, if McKeag cannot organize his own club — blessed with vast resources, a huge and loyal public — what chances have the League?

It is said that Newcastle is a sleeping giant in football, yet Rip Van Winkle would be a more appropriate title for a club which, cup football apart, has been asleep since it last won the championship 61 years ago. Even cup ties have been a passing romance, with three FA Cup victories in the Fifth, losing final against Liverpool in 1974 and a losing League Cup final against Manchester City in 1976.

Yet the public remains touchingly eager to open its arms to anyone with resources or style in their play. The terraces of St James' Park are alight at the sight of a Bobby Mitchell or Malcolm MacDonald — 95 goals in 187 matches — a Jinky Smith or a Chris Waddle.

They long to reward loyalty with loyalty, which is why they lined the streets in their tens of thousands for the funeral procession of Jackie Milburn, one of the finest players in the history of the club, who was a Tyneside weekly medal winner. It is why, when Newcastle slightly fortuitously qualified for the FA Cup, as it then was, in tenth place in 1968, there was an attendance of 58,000 for the

Bingham alerted to the task ahead

By Peter Ball

When the World Cup draw was made in December, Spain were regarded as clear favourites in group six. There have been a few changes since then, but their performance in the throbbing Benito Villamarín stadium in Seville on Wednesday night in the opening match of their campaign confirmed their status as the team to beat.

It proved beyond the Republic of Ireland's capabilities on the night. Michel, the Barcelona midfielder player, ran rampant through Ireland's midfield to pose constant problems to a defence already under pressure as the crowd sent a crescendo of noise behind their ears.

It must have felt like being trapped in the middle of an air raid, particularly to those who had to duck a bottle, but was in more danger from the work of Butragueno and Manolo at ground level.

It left the Northern Ireland manager, Billy Bingham, who was among the crowd, and who takes his team to Seville next month, with plenty to think about. As he admitted, the result is a major setback for the Republic of Ireland.

Seville, as Bingham is only too aware, is an important factor in the equation. Spain have never lost in 23 matches in the city. However, Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, has taken a morale boost from the fact that in the return match in April, the crowd advantage will be in his favour.

Without them Ireland was wanting, and the flaws did not escape Bingham. "Michel was the fulcrum of the game, he controlled everything. The Republic have more experience than us but I hope our side will be a bit more solid."

Strategy left to Southgate players

Southgate, who announced that they have parted company with their Irish coach of long standing, David Vinson, will call on some of the senior players, including plan the strategy for the remainder of the season (Sydney Friskin writes).

The Southgate management has stated that Vinson, who coached the club to five triumphs in the national championship, is relinquishing his post by mutual consent and his departure is in no way connected with the club's elimination from the third round of the Nationwide Anglia Cup.

Kent could fail on goal difference

The Midlands group, being completed at Coventry Stadium, looks wide open. Despite Leicestershire's record of 20 points from five games, they have yet to play their greatest rivals, Shrewsbury, for whom Jamie Swinerton is still a great danger in attack.

Next, the national champions, Suffolk and Essex are all on 12 points from three matches in the East, but Suffolk lead on goal difference, thanks to their 10-0 victory over Lincolnshire. Suffolk have benefited from the

return of Julie Cook, the British Olympic goalkeeper, and the inclusion of Sandy Lister, the England captain, to the England captaincy.

They play Huddersfield and Cambridge United tomorrow at Colchester and Hertfordshire on Sunday. But Kent also have a programme which could bring in three victories and goal difference, thanks to their 10-0 victory over Lincolnshire. Suffolk have benefited from the

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FA CUP

By Louise Taylor

The majority involved spitting, swearing and pushing, but there were a few especially violent outbursts which resulted in the hospitalisation of referees.

"This is totally unacceptable," Downey said. "We live in a violent society and you expect this sort of thing late at night on the underground; not in sport."

Before qualifying as League officials, referees have to serve an apprenticeship of at least five years in lower leagues, but the supply rising to the top is dwindling as referees become increasingly discouraged by assaults and abuse from players at the bottom of the pyramid.

Gordon Taylor, the secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, welcomed the introduction of the five-man sub-committee, which will be chaired by Graham Kelly, the Association's chief executive designate.

"Thankfully, such incidents are extremely rare in the professional game. But we are concerned because the number of physical assaults on referees means there are not enough coming through," Taylor said.

The most effective deterrent to such violence is banning players from life, and last season the FA imposed the ultimate sanction on 110 miscreants.

Of 322 assaults on referees recorded last season, none occurred in the Football League.

Garry Thompson, the Aston Villa forward, has threatened a move to Oxford United after the two clubs had agreed a transfer fee of £300,000 (Chris Moore writes). Thompson, who caused a media storm when he was loaned to the Hawthorns, declined to give a reason.

West Bromwich Albion have rejected an approach from Birmingham City, who wanted Paul Dwyer, but have agreed a month's loan. Albion, meanwhile, are still waiting to hear from Liverpool as to whether they can extend the loan of John Durnin, whose initial four-week spell at the Hawthorns expires tomorrow.

Leeds Town have rejected a £500,000 bid from Manchester City for David Oldfield.

Tottenham Hotspur's appeal against the deduction of two points for calling off their first team players will be heard on November 30.

Adrian Heath is eager to move to Espanol if Everton can reach agreement on a fee with the Spanish club.

Thompson decides to stay at Villa

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Ampleforth still unbeaten

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

One of the most captivating matches, which wholly made up for some sour past encounters, was played between Ampleforth and Paddy Bingham, who are unbeaten, and their great friends and rivals, Stonyhurst, who gained a footing for the first time in the visitors' half in 25 minutes.

Pressure of this kind earned Ampleforth a 13-0 lead at half-time through tries by Richard Booth and Paddy Bingham, with Booth kicking a conversion and penalty. At this juncture, Stonyhurst must have feared an avalanche of points, but a push-over try, touched down by Ed Bell, and a conversion and brace of penalties by Paul Flood, carried Stonyhurst within sight of victory, which was whisked away from them by a second half penalty by Booth (16-12).

Graham's have won all their 13 matches, an especially satisfying win coming against Campton, also previously unbeaten (38-14). They have also defeated Oakham (13-3), Festiniog (24-3) and Stamford (17-3). Until November 12, Graham's had only conceded one try, including a successful half-term tour of France.

Strathallan beat Edinburgh Academy away (24-25) but felt the full power of Scotland's curiously most successful school, Merchiston Castle, who beat them 42-6.

The spectacular 22-match encounter between Wellington (Berks) and Redley took place last weekend, Wellington winning 12 and Redley conceding 12. The first XV match was a hard, grafting affair with victory going to Wellington by a goal and three penalties to two tries (15-8).

St Bees, who have won four, lost two and drawn one from their last five matches, have organized a match against Whitehaven at

the Ellis Donnan, Worthington, on December 7, on behalf of Nick Sinclair, who suffered terrible spinal injuries in a motor accident in 1975. The match is hoped to raise money under the sponsorship of Save and Prosper.

King's Worcester scraped home against Bishop Vesey's (9-7), scoring three penalties by their stand-off Tomkins, to a try by the hooker, Kohn, and a penalty kicked by Healey.

Oundle encountered Rugby on a day when several absences, including their outstanding forward, Ewan Murchison, resulted in a considerable superiority for the Oundle pack; Oundle led 13-9 almost until the final whistle but a fine try, scored on the wing by Richard Bryant, matched the draw (13-13).

Cheltenham, who are still unbeaten, have recent victories over Redley, for the first time in 12 years (18-4) and Stone (31-4).

TABLE TENNIS

Long reign may be nearing an end

Desmond Douglas has hung on to his No 1 position in the latest England rankings, prompting speculation that he may lose it when the next list is produced after Christmas (Richard Easton writes).

Douglas, now aged 33, keeps the top spot by virtue of being the only Englishman to reach the last 16 in the Olympic Games. One win less in Seoul would have caused him to lose the pre-eminent position he has held almost continuously for more than a decade.

The man who appears to be on the verge of topping him is Alan Cooke, of Derbyshire, who had a superior record in the recent England v China series.

LEADING RANKINGS: Men 1, D Douglas (Wales); 2, A Cooke (Derbyshire); 3, C Patten (Wales); 4, N Menden (Sussex); 5, J Andrew (Worcester); 6, J Seddon (Reading); 7, J Bower (Sussex); 8, B Bingham (Cheshire); 9, B Baker (Gloucester); 10, R Smith (Leicestershire).

Women: 1, A Gordon (Reading); 2, L Lomas (Derbyshire); 3, F Bell (Worcester); 4, J Duggan (Sussex); 5, M Salisbury (Newbury); 6, J Harris (Wales); 7, C Giles (Plymouth); 8, J Norrish (Worcester); 9, S Collier (Wiltshire).

Cynthia Duncan, from Donaghmore, is another player who has also won two places in the senior party, to strengthen the defence, and Rie Murrigh, who is hoping to win her first full cap.

Young England will be grateful for the expertise of two full internationalists, Karen Fenton, of Ellesmere Port, with two years experience in the top flight and Alison Keyes, from Halesowen, who made her full debut against the West Indies last year.

HOW TO GET THERE: Aston Villa Leisure Centre, Aston Hall Road, Birmingham B6 (Tel 021-628 6330). A local schools match opens the entertainment at 6.30 p.m., with presentation of the teams at 7.15 p.m. Admission is £2 for members of the FA England National Association and £2.50 for non members. The Centre has a large car park.

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Young England will be grateful for the expertise of two full internationalists, Karen Fenton, of Ellesmere Port, with two years experience in the top flight and Alison Keyes, from Halesowen, who made her full debut against the West Indies last year.

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DRUGS IN SPORT

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

are anti-apartheid and with the political problems in Ireland this fight is the last thing I need."

McGuigan could also find himself boxing for the vacant WBC title for there are reports that Nelson is having difficulty making super-feather weight and is thinking of moving up to challenge for the world lightweight title.

McGuigan, looking in superb shape, said he was "ready to fight for the world title right now". But first he must warm up with the contest against Julio Miranda, of Argentina, at Mudchute Farm, London Docklands, on December 1.

According to McGuigan, Miranda is No. 9 in the world rankings, has had 34 contests and lost one only on a technical decision, has fast hands, is difficult to hit and good on his feet.

McGuigan hopes not to

have too much trouble getting Miranda out of the way as he believes he is stronger now than before and punching even harder. "I have the will to win the world title more than ever before," he said.

"I just have to get into the ring and the guy tries to hit me and I'll be switched on. I've been through half a dozen sparring partners. I've been sore on them. I'm there."

● Young Haumona, the Tongan heavyweight, and his manager, Albie Williams, plan to push themselves into boxing's big time with a November 29 Commonwealth title bout against Derek Williams, of Peckham, at the Royal Albert Hall. "Boxing is big money, reputations are to be made here and this is Young's chance," Williams said after arriving in London yesterday.

Frank Bruno's world heavyweight title bout with Mike Tyson took place early next year, according to Bruno's manager, Terry Lawless, speaking outside the court when he is contesting a claim on Bruno's earnings by a journalist, Al Hamilton.

Lawless said he thought American television would bring pressure to bear on Tyson's manager, Bill Cayton, and the promoter, Don King, who are reportedly in dispute. "I would think the fight will take place in February or March," Lawless said. "But it will take place."

Francis said it was he who suggested Bruno join Lawrence. "Bruno was big and strong but he needed time to develop," Francis told the court. "I did not have the time and said in my opinion the one he should go to was Terry Lawrence."

Of Hamilton, who is claiming a 553,000 share of Bruno's earnings, Francis testified that he struck a deal with Lawrence promising him five per cent of

He has tried to feather his own nest." Lawless denies any contract and is counter-claiming for the return of \$200 he said he loaned Hamilton.

Lawless also defended a well-known syndicate with his fellow promoters, Mickey Drury and Jarvis Andre, against charges that it operated against the interests of his boxers. "It is a conflict of interests if you are not honest and I am totally honest," he said.

© NEW YORK (APF): Robin Givens, Tyson's estranged wife, is seeking \$125 million (about \$69 million) in damages for libel

RUGBY LEAGUE

A missionary trip to the South Seas

By Barry Pickthall

Such is the way of modern yacht racing that crews, forced to sit on the weather rail for days at a time during races such as the Fastnet classic, have taken to fastening pills and coffee granules to their keels to keep them dry.

This unwelcome effect, coupled with the positive test of the Montegoque Finn sailor, Philippe Battaglia, during the Olympic Games, has prompted the International Yacht Racing Union to set up a commission to look into drug abuse within the sport.

Battaglia's case, which came to light only yesterday, highlights the human element necessary when interpreting drug abuse and the dilemma facing watching authorities who presently have no way of testing sailors outside the Olympic classes.

Battaglia, one of a three-man team without the benefit of a doctor, pleaded successfully that his positive test, taken after the last race in the regatta, was the result of medicines he was taking for a cold at a time that the fact that he finished third out of 33 may also have helped his argument.

While the professional game masks in the glow of rising attendances, cheered by Malcolm Reilly's decision to carry on as Great Britain coach, the amateur referees, with "behind" the "Behind" Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA) has this week announced the opening of its first Centre of Excellence, at Leigh, and a tour of the South Pacific in 1990.

The provision of a Centre of Excellence has been made possible by a grant of £180,000 from the former Greater Manchester Council. It will be officially opened on December 1 by Anthony Goldstone, who is chairman of the Greater Manchester Youth Association.

It consists of a six-acre site with two floodlit playing areas and a small pitch for schoolboy mini-rugby. It will be the headquarters of Dennis McHugh, development officer for the game with Wigan Metropolitan

Packline

Borough Council. There is also a gymnasium, whose construction was supervised by the Rugby League's director of coaching, Phil Leader.

An invitation to play internationals against Western Samoa, Tonga, and the Cook Islands on the South Pacific tour have been happily accepted by the BARLA; the trip have been given the full blessing of the Rugby League International Board.

Maurice Oldroyd, the national administrator, recently made a trip to Western Samoa to assess the progress of amateur rugby league in this outpost. He says: "The quality of rugby impressed me greatly in the recent Pacific Cup competition, when Western Samoa, Tonga and the Cook Islands all reached the semi-final stage."

The 1988 Pacific Cup attracted six nations, likely to grow to 10 for the next competition, in Tonga, in 1990.

for Reilly

with a win over the Rest of the World at Headingley last month

Malcolm Reilly has been invited by the Rugby League to continue as Great Britain coach, despite the fact that he is coach of Leeds and will retain that post (Keith Macklin writes).

Although Reilly had asked for time to consider the problems involved there was never any real doubt that he would rise to the challenge after the renewed confidence, bordering on euphoria, created by victory in the third international in Australia.

Great Britain followed up

with a win over the Rest of the World at Headingley last month which helped convince Reilly that he should continue.

It is greatly to his credit that he has persuaded the League to change its policy of the last five years of making the Great Britain post a full-time one.

The other members of the Great Britain management team, Les Bettinson, the manager, and the assistant coach, Phil Larder, have also been re-appointed.

By Richard Streaton

Family problems have forced Abdul Qadir, the wicket-keeper bowler, to declare himself unavailable for the forthcoming tour to Australia and New Zealand. Qadir, whose leg breaks and googlies have brought him 216 wickets in 17 Tests, and 175 in 57 one-day matches, was named as Pakistan announced yesterday for the World Series tournament in Australia during December and January.

The absence of Qadir will give Mushtaq Ahmed, who is earmarked as his long-term successor, an opportunity to develop his game.

Mushtaq, aged 19, came close to winning his first cap in the recent series against Australia. He first attracted notice last December when he took six wickets against England in a three-day game at Sahiwal.

Mushtaq does not yet possess the full repertoire of tricks that is accurate for his type, he is not a considerable turn on his leg

[illegible]

Bound for Bristol: Hickox (left) and Taylor after the draw for the InterCity championships

By Colin McQuillan

Bobby Robson's constant lament about world football might as easily be applied to the current season's football draw for the Inter-City national championships, at Bristol, from November 25 revealed there are no longer any easy men's games at this level.

Robson's men's championship is another matter. Lisa Opie, a defending champion, in search of a record fifth national title this year, is hardly likely to be tested before a projected semi-final against the favourites, Birmingham City, who were the 1983 winner, and may offer only true contest in a final against either Marine Le Moignan, the world No. 2, or Ruth Best of Ireland.

As early as the second round Hibernian will meet Robson Owen, the season's most built-

Hant Avon No. 1, who tested him in last season's under-23 closed final. Next up for the defender should be Mark Huxford, then probably Bryan Beeson.

The other half of the men's field is scheduled to bring Stuart Hailstone, the Scottish No. 1, to a semi-final against Jamie Huxford, Glasgow No. 2.

Hixton will be happy as third seed to have missed the half dominated by Harris, but his quarter of the 64-man draw might be labelled "Old Guard". Harry Harris, who seeded round against Danny Lee, his oldest opponent from Surrey junior days, should be followed by a third round against either Gwainn Briars, or David Pearson, quarter-final against Philip Ransom.

[illegible]

Few obstacles in champion's path

By Steve Acteson

David Davis, whose path to a fifth successive Tennents United Kingdom championship was made a little less thorny by the unexpected elimination of Jimmy White by Mark Bennett, has received a favourable draw for the 1989 Embassy World Championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, from April 15 to May 1.

If there is such a thing as an easy passage then Davis, who has won the last two world titles and third in a row, would appear to have it, for he is not scheduled to meet an opponent who, on past or present form could cause him serious problems, until the semi-final, where he will meet the first seed, the young Scot, Stephen Hendry, the world No. 4.

Hendry, who by then will be out of his teens, is first likely to have to get past a tricky first round opponent in the shape of Tony O'Shea of Malta.

White, who must take some of the blame for his defeat by Beunett, a former demolition worker, by playing to the crowd when 5-1 ahead and thus helping his opponent's comeback, took one of the most embarrassing setbacks of his career with effrontery and grace.

He said: "Mark made a string of brilliant shots to finish me off and how can I complain about losing to someone playing snooker like that? Good luck to him."

The Tennents tournament, worth £80,000 to the winner and now down to the last 16, resumes tomorrow with only two tables in play and Beunett continuing to progress at the expense of Barry West, who had a good fourth round victory over the South African, Silvino Francisco.

RESULTS: Fourth round (Wednesday): A

Veteran's ire is misplaced

misplaced

A misunderstanding left Fred Davis OBE, ceasing red yesterday (Steve Carter writes). He believed he was to be disciplined by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) for withdrawing from a qualifying match in the Mercantile Credit Classic in June, despite having gained the consolation snooker match directed to do so, because he had arthritis.

Davis, aged 75, and his late brother, Joe, are the only two players to have won both the world snooker and billiards titles.

He feared that an unblemished reputation was to be tainted when a letter from the WPBSA was sent him to appear before them in Bristol on November 30, at 9 am.

A spokesman for the WPBSA explained: "Unfortunately, Fred Davis was asked to have a hearing on the letter that was sent him to appear before them in Bristol on November 30, at 9 am."

One of the most inexperienced

England women's cricket squads have selected leaves **Heathrow** tomorrow to fly to **Perth** for the 1983-84 **Cup** tournament in **Australia** from the end of the month (Cathy Harris writes).

Only the captain, **Jane Powell**, and **Janene Brittin**, remain from the **Asiatic** **Aspinall** remain from the 1982-83 **Aspinall** and five players have yet to represent **England** at senior level. They are **Debbie Maybury**, aged 17, **Suzie Khson**, **Claire Taylor**, and **Caroline**, all 16, and **Lisa**, **Wicketkeeper**.

The manager, **Norma Izard**, was confident of beating **New Zealand** in **Perth** on **November 9**. **Australia**, **Ireland** and **The Netherlands** are also competing.

England will be joined by **John**, **J. Britin** (**Surrey**), **J. Agnelli**, **D. Taylor** (**all Yorkshire**), **C. Berra**, **L. Lovell** (**all Lancashire**), **C. Williams** (**Worcestershire**), **C. Middletons**, **C. Jones** (**Lancashire** and **Cheshire**), **S. Williams** (**Worcestershire**), **L. Nye** and **G. Smith** (**all Lancashire**).

Indiana Pacers 104; Los Angeles Clippers 112, Sacramento Kings 101.

[illegible]

1, Beienjky, 9.637; 2, Park Jong-Hoon (S Kor), 9.600; 3, T Onda (Jap), 9.462. Parallel bars: 1, Aoki, 9.850; 2, Katsuni, 9.775; equal 3, M.

[illegible]

HONG KONG: Asian tournament Semi-final:
Japan 20, Taiwan 19 (Japan meet South
Korea in final)

[illegible]

Robinson, beat Malvern's third pair. Philip Bosser and Ian

Timberlake, 15-9, 13-16, 15-4, 2-15, 12-8, 15-6 in the Noel Bruce Cup main competition first round at Queen's Club on Wednesday evening (William Stephens writes).

Mockridge won the H K Foster Cup in 1976. Robinson is holder of the Public Schools Doubles Championship with Guy Barker.

The No. 2 seeds, the Old Malvernian brothers, Mark and Paul Nicholls, defeated the Etonians' second pair.

Oakley Marketing

Wednesday 1: Fort Vale 1, York 0; Scunthorpe 1

[illegible][illegible]

son already has Wm O'Connell, Inc.; Tuckman & Olden, Inc.; M. O'Donnell, Inc.; H. Wynn, Inc.; C. Frank Knoch, Jr.; D. Sweeney, Inc.; J. Haller, Jr.; Carter, P. Robinson, B. Cochrane, Inc.; B. McMillan, Inc.; J. Sinclair, Jr.; L. S. Price, S. Jones, J. Senapee, Rummels.

AVIATION

Average Daily Profit: \$600,000
Leading first-and-second sources: GE Financial Corp. (US), 87%
Comptel (US), 87%
T. Chen (Thyngsboro, Mass.) (US), 87%
H. Mincham (Ampth, Mass.)
B. Jones (Mass.)
K. Tuckman (Ampth) T. Mackintosh (Ampth)
J. Sinclair (US), 87%
F. Fuld (Ampth)
J. Jones (Ampth)
C. Sinclair (US), 87%
R. Wynn (US)
S. Jones (US)

HOCKEY

SCHOOL MATCHES: RG High Wymouth 2, Kingston GG 1.

[illegible]

6-1 UGASCO (US) in H Ventry Hall (US), 3-2, 5-7
 6-2 GAGNAGNE (US) in T Yoncoskie (US), 3-2, 5-7
 3-6, 6-3; J Tume (US) in L Strass (US), 3-2, 5-7
NEW YORK: Women's championships: First Round: C Ewart (US) in B Posner (US), 4-2, 7-2
 6-4 H Salovey (US) in Z Gertzen (US), 2-6, 6-2
 3-2, 6-3 G Sotomai (Arg) in K Kuevasa (Ch), 6-2, 6-1
JOHANNESBURG: South African Open: Second Round: P Adair (SA) in A Gomes (Ecu), 3-2, 6-2
 6-3 P Norval (SA) in R Perera (Ven), 3-2, 6-2
 6-3, 3-1 J Hume (GB) in T Verbeke (Ned), 3-2, 6-2
 4-4, 7-6, 5-3 H Muller (SA) in B Dreyfus (Afr), 7-6, 6-3
 6-4 M Anger (US) in Y Talsman (Fru), 6-3, 6-3
 6-4, 7-6 J Japane (Japan) in G Katsen (Fru), Last Round: J Japane (Japan) in G Katsen (Fru), 6-2, 6-2
 6-4, 7-6, 5-3 J Carter (US) in S Skramstad (Nor), 6-2, 6-2
 6-4, 6-2 M Allen in T Yoncoskie (US), 6-2, 6-2

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